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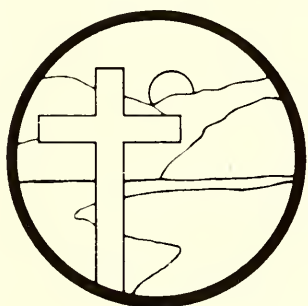








# **ACROSS THE YEARS WITH**



## **Balfour Baptist church**

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**“Where everybody is somebody and Jesus Christ is Lord.”**

# BALFOUR BAPTIST CHURCH

2511 Asheville Highway (U.S. 25)

Balfour, N.C. (2 miles North of Hendersonville)

—Affiliated with *The Southern Baptist Convention*—

That this may be a sign among you,  
that when your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying,  
what mean ye by these stones? then shall ye answer them

Joshua 4:6-7

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## DEDICATED TO:

The memory of all those who have out-stripped us in the race of time  
who have helped make these pages of history possible...

And to the challenge of our present membership not to drop the torch  
now, but to hold it high and give the next generation something to  
build on.

And gave him to be head over all things to the church

Eph. 1:22



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## FORWARD

What a blessing it has been for us to ponder over the path of the saints of Balfour Baptist Church since its origin in 1908. The past events that probably, at the time, seemed insignificant to many, stands out in our research as key pieces to the puzzle that we have tried to put together. The faithfulness of the members ignited by their love for the Savior is what has made Balfour Baptist Church a monument to the grace of God. Evidence of sacrificial service marks the pages of its history from the beginning until the present. There have been thrilling times, but there has also been discouraging times. Times when men's wisdom wavered and their strength failed only to show that the Captain is able to bring his ship through the storms. It is his name that we wish to magnify in compiling these few pages of highlights of the history of this church. He gave himself for the church and there is no question but what he is interested in its every step along the journey.

We never want to forget the ones that have out-run us in the race of time, leaving behind their well marked path through this community. Their lives remain a constant challenge to all of us that we might also leave behind a history and a church that will be a blessing to the on-coming generations.

We regret that all the material collected could not be printed in this limited volume, but we trust that what is used will prove to be a real testimony that God has greatly blessed its membership. Our roots have unquestionably been planted well and deep. So let us bear much fruit and may it never be said of our forerunners that they "labored in vain".

We cannot swear that every piece of information put forth in this book is 100% correct, but the committee has put out an honest effort to tell it like it was. If there appears to be any prejudice or leaning in any certain direction other than to glorify the Lord, it is unintentional and we ask that you be considerate of our human limitations. Remember none of us are perfect — just forgiven.

## THE HISTORY COMMITTEE

Melissa Bryson  
Sharion Bolden  
Harry Newman  
Harold Pruitt  
Emerson Searcy (Chairman)

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE



God has richly blessed Balfour Baptist Church in its heritage over the years by giving numerous men and women to serve in the many capacities as pastor, deacon, teacher, Sunday school worker and so forth.

Believe the church ought to continue its work every day, every week, and every month of the year. The devil never lets up and we should never let down. There is no time that isn't a good time to do the work of the Lord. We should strive to be like a giant steel mill that cannot shut down without tremendous cost and preparation; the furnaces burn and roar night and day.

Let the church be just that way! We cannot shut down or close up without tremendous change of heart and soul; Our spirits will not let us. We must work the work of our Lord; the truth is that when we can strive no longer ... the day of grace is over.

We have labored together at Balfour in an effort to extend the ministries of the congregation into every area of human life and into every day and season of the year. It is a joy to see our people playing, learning, praying, singing, studying, teaching, working, doing what God would have his people do who have come out of the world and into the glories of the kingdom of our dear Lord.

Dewey A. Thomas, Pastor

## RECOGNITION

To render complete recognition to all deserving people who have helped the committee accumulate the information for this book would be impossible. Sometimes just a mention of a name, a place, or an incident opened up new avenues of much-needed material.

Our own church members have been the greatest help of all and are placed No. 1 in our recognition list. They have come forth continually with pictures, printed articles, suggestions, and especially with memories which have made this book a success. Church, we thank you!

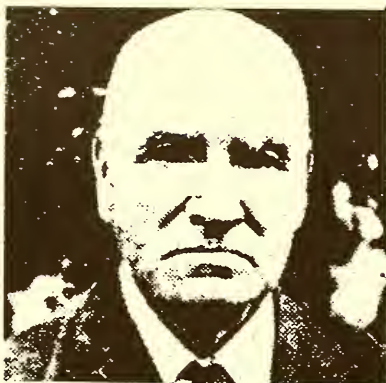
Others outside our membership who have contributed also are listed below. Again, we confess the list is incomplete.

Carolina Baptist Association Office  
East Flat Rock Baptist Church  
David Arledge  
Furman University  
Mrs. Tom Orr  
Wake Forest University  
Anderson College  
Henderson County Library  
Toby Gilreath (photographer)  
Greenville News  
Mrs. Steve Pace  
Budget Printing Center, Inc.  
Barbers Studio  
Thicketty Baptist Church (Clyde, NC)  
Galeed Baptist Church (Bladenboro, NC)

**BELOW TABLES TAKEN FROM ASSOCIATIONAL MINUTES**

[illegible]7





**ELIJAH ALLISON**, former pastor of Stoney Mtn. Church.

1881, Lolly Freeman, John Freeman and Grace Freeman, all found the Saviour, and were baptized in Cane Creek, and united with the Fair View Baptist Church. The ordinance was performed in the afternoon at the confluence of Ashworth Creek and Cane Creek. A "rack-pole" stretched across the creek to prevent the cattle from proceeding further up the creek. Several boys sat on the "rack-pole" during the progress of the baptismal service and suddenly it broke and into the water fell all the boys as the waters were mixed with floating ice.

The "Preacher" Brother Elijah Allison laughed, and the people thought he was shouting. Marie Freeman, a brother to Jerome Benjamin, was directing the music for the service, was so overcome with laughter and emotion, that he threw down his hymn book and ran to the house to laugh. Brother Elijah Allison was so fond of fun and pranks and some of the brethren, knowing that he liked to swap horses, traded him a "stump-sucking" horse. The "joke" was on the "Preacher" to the great amusement of the Freeman boys, whose dog "Cuff" he had frightened and made "gun-shy."

ABOVE ARTICLE TAKEN FROM RECORDS AT WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY.

## Calico Party at Stoney Mountain

There will be a "Calico Party" at Stoney Mountain school house, next Saturday, for the benefit of the Baptist church at Balfour. A string band will help make a pleasant evening.

Don't you know what a Calico Party is?

Well, the girls bring boxes of good things to eat. Each box has a piece of calico in it. These boxes are auctioned off. You open yours. Then you hunt up the girl wearing an apron which matches the piece of calico you found in your box, and for the rest of the evening you devote yourself to her. Sounds mighty attractive, doesn't it? And every cent of the proceeds is for the benefit of the new Baptist church at Balfour. Don't forget that!

NEWS ITEM taken from *French Broad Hustler*, Henderson County's local newspaper in 1908.



## EARLY HISTORY OF BALFOUR COMMUNITY AND CHURCH

As people began to settle in Henderson County, small communities sprang up. The railroad was expanding and people were struggling to make a start here in these Western North Carolina mountains.

In 1889, a Captain William Balfour Troy established a rock quarry that produced stones for the railroad. This small community decided to be named Balfour in honor of the captain's family.

The quiet town of Balfour has been an industrial community almost from its beginning.

Balfour grew up around Berkeley Mills, originally Balfour Mills, which was established in 1924

Captain Ellison A. Smythe, a South Carolina textile man who fell in love with the mountains of western North Carolina.

Balfour Mills manufactured top quality cotton print cloth. To house the mill workers, Smythe built a village containing some 105 houses around the plant site.

Balfour also had an orphanage known as the mountain orphanage. It was established in 1904 in Haywood County and moved to Balfour several years later. When the home outgrew its facilities here, it moved to its present site now the Presbyterian Home for Children of Black Mountain.

Religion has also played an important role in the lives of Balfour's residents down through the years. When the mill was built in 1924, the only church was Balfour Baptist Church.

Balfour Baptist Church was originally organized in an old schoolhouse at the foot of Stoney Mountain. The people gathered there for their worship of our Lord and was known as Stoney Mountain Baptist Church.

In 1907 the congregation decided they needed to build a church and move from the schoolhouse.

Picnics and calico parties were given to help raise money for the new church.

Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Spence donated 1 acre of land located at Balfour on Hwy. 69 (now U.S. 25) between Hendersonville and Asheville, North Carolina.

The church building was constructed and on May 10, 1908 the church was dedicated. Stoney Mountain Baptist Church was changed to Balfour Baptist Church.



**J. VOL RHODES** relaxing in front of the building used for the orphanage in Balfour.

## DEDICATION OF BALFOUR BAPTIST CHURCH

REV. W. A. MORRIS, Pastor.  
Dear Friend:

You are cordially invited to attend the Special Services of Church Dedication at Balfour, N. C., 10 a. m., Sunday, May 10th, 1908, and share with the church and Sunday school membership in the exercises as outlined in the following Program:

### Programme

Address of welcome,  
by Superintendent E. J. Rhodes.

Song, Infant class greeting,  
Mrs. J. W. Crawford, leader.

Congratulatory responses,  
by J. L. Orr and R. H. Staton.

Song Service,  
by the Sunday School.

Scripture Reading.

Prayer.

Dedication Addresses by  
G. S. Jones, E. Allison,  
Rev. Cole.

Music, by Visiting Choir.  
Refreshments, Social Greetings.

2. p. m. Song Service.  
Impromptu Addresses.

Music.

Benediction.

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## PLY



### Easter

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FIRST SERVICE IN NEW CHURCH IN 1908  
AS RECORDED IN CHURCH MINUTES

March the 22 1908  
The First Service in the New Church  
at Balfour Sunday by Pastor N.A.  
Monice Text Samuel the 12 & 29 By  
notions tent inative Conference the  
Soney Mountain Baptist Church by No.  
by Conference a great two change  
there means two Balfour Baptist  
Church then by notions a Comity  
of 4 was appointed by the Church  
two were out so began for the  
Dedication of the New Church at  
Balfour by notions set apart the  
Sed this day of May the Dedication  
of the New Church at Balfour  
by notions a letter was granted  
Sister Alice Wilans. The Delegate  
was appointed by the Moderator for the  
Union of Meets with the The Barnwell  
Church Delegate as follows  
C.V. Bato Thursday Feb. 22nd  
Sister Bowen Sister Allen  
Sister Allen. Election for Pastor  
83 86 then 8 is Mist by Pastor  
Approved  
J. E. Allen. Sec.

DEDICATION SERVICE  
AS DESCRIBED IN CHURCH RECORDS

Dedication Service of Balfour  
of Balfour Baptist Church on  
12<sup>th</sup> May. The 10<sup>th</sup> 1908 The service  
was opened by song from the infant  
class followed by prayer by Bro  
T. A. Morris pastor a song by church  
choir. follows next was an address  
of welcome by E. J. Rhodes financial  
condition of church stated by Bro  
Morris and pledges were taken  
amounting to \$208.75 - cash and pledges  
Dedication Sermon was preached  
by Bro G. S. Jones dismissed for dinner  
which was served on the ground  
where all greeted their congregation  
was highly entertained by Shavro  
Creek Chy. follows by some  
interesting and important and  
addresses.

adjourned.

L. B. Allen Sec. C. C.



## A Church Covenant

Have been led as we believe by the  
spirit of God to receive the Lord Jesus  
Christ as our Saviour, and on the profession  
of our faith having been Baptized in  
the name of the Father and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit We do now in  
the presence of God and this assembly  
most solemnly and joyfully enter into  
covenant with one another as one body  
in Christ we engage therefore by the  
aid of the Holy Spirit to walk together  
in Christian love to strive for the  
advancement of this church in  
knowledge holiness and comfort  
to promote its prosperity and  
shortness to sustain its worship  
ordinances discipline and doctrines  
to contribute cheerfully and regularly  
of our property as the Lord has prospered  
us to the support of the ministry the  
expenses of the church the relief of  
the poor and the spread of the  
gospel through all nations  
We also engage to maintain family  
and secret devotion to religiously  
educate our children to seek  
the salvation of our kindred  
and acquaintances to walk

circumspectly in the word to  
be just in our dealings faithful  
in our engagements and exemplary  
in our deportment to avoid all  
tattling backbiting and excessive  
anger to abstain from the sale  
and use of intoxicating drinks  
as a beverage and to be zealous  
in our efforts to advance the  
kingdom of our Saviour

We further engage to watch over  
one another in brotherly love to  
remember each other in prayer  
to aid each other in sickness and  
distress to cultivate Christian  
sympathy in feeling and  
courtesy in speech to be slow to  
take offense and always ready  
for reconciliation and mindful  
of the rules of our Saviour to  
secure it without delay We therefore  
engage that when we remove from  
this place we will as soon as  
practicable unite with some other  
church where we can carry out  
the spirit of this covenant and  
the principles of Gods word



## MR. SPENCE THANKED FOR DONATING LAND FOR CHURCH BUILDING

Southern Railway for special freight rates on the large quantities of fish and game, which naturally will result from the excursion.

On Wednesday, July 8, the Balfour Baptist Church will give an ice cream supper at the residence of Mr. W. H. Spencer, near the church. There will be a brass band, and every effort will be made to give those attending the pleasantest time possible. Every body is cordially invited to attend.

In this connection the Balfour church wishes to thank Mr. Spencer for his generous donation of land for the church building, which is fully appreciated by the congregation.

The Hustler office will be closed on Saturday, July 4th. There will be no issue of the Daily



### God's Word Says...

and he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

Psalm 1:3

**THIS INFORMATION RETRIEVED FROM  
WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY AS FILED BY  
W.E. HAMMOND IN 1930**

Balfour Baptist Church, Balfour, North Carolina, October 21st. 1930,

The Baptist Church at Balfour, N.C. is a Missionary Baptist Church, is located about 500 yards from the post office of Balfour, N.C. the Church is located on the Main High-way No 69 between Hendersonville, and Asheville, N.C. The Land that the Church is built on, was given by Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Spence, Deed Recorded in Deed Book No 57. Page No 4 dated February 19th. 1907,

Names of Pastors who has served this church from 1907 to 1930,  
Rev. W.A. Norris, Rev. Wade Sinclair, Rev. Samuel Huntley, Rev. R.P. Corn,  
Rev. M. John Aldridge, Rev. Liner, Rev. H.H. Mace, Rev. N.B. Phillips,  
Rev. M.L. Lewis, Rev. C.E. Blythe,

The First Deacons or Trustees of Balfour Baptist Church were.  
J.E. Allen, Jas. Lee, Riley Hootes, and Square Collins,

From 1908 to 1924, the Church had a Membership of 35 to 50, and in 1924, Captain Ellison A. Smyth, Built a Cotton Mill in the Balfour Community which was added 112 more Famleys, and in 1926, the church was Enlarged at a cost of about ( 3.800.00) which was raised by and through the Members of Balfour Church, the church at present has ( 7 ) Sunday School Rooms,

Rev. C.E. Blythe, is the present Pastor, and has been pastor of Balfour Church for the past Two Years, The Balfour Baptist at Present has a Membership of about 225 Members, They have half time preaching services Sunday School every Sunday Morning with Enrolment of ( 207 ) and Prayer services ever Wednesday Evening,

W.E. Hammond, Supt' Sunday School, J.B. Stansell, Secty. E.S. Justus, Church Clerk, F.M. McCarson, Asst. Supt' Sunday School,

The Post Office and Rail Road Station was secured by Captain Troy, who was the First Man to develop the Community called BALFOUR, Captain Troy Cleared several Acres of Land and Established a Rock Quarry, just how This Community was called "BALFOUR" is unknown to the writer,

They have been Two of the Members of Balfour Baptist Church, been called to Preach, and was Recommended to be licened to preach by the Members of Balfour Baptist Church, and they were ordained in Balfour Baptist church, They were Rev. S.O. Sargent, and Rev. Eugen Coker,

( the Address of our Pastor is )  
( C.E. Blythe, Balfour, N.C. )

*By W.E. Hammond*



**BALFOUR MILL and village as many remember them after 1924.**

## AN INTERVIEW WITH MRS. MOLLY EYE



**MOLLY EYE**

Mrs. Molly Eye sat in the living room of her son's home on Sunday afternoon, March 31, 1985, with eyes sparkling and a chipper voice ready to talk about the good old days surrounding the origin of Balfour Baptist Church. So many items of interest seem to stand out so clearly in her mind concerning the church, her family, and her friends.

The first topic of discussion was the dedication of the Balfour Baptist Church in 1908. She was quick to say "I was at that dedication ... I was there!" When the first pastor of the church, Rev. W.A. Morris, was men-

tioned she said, "I remember him very well - he baptized me." Concerning the attendance at the dedication she explained "Everybody and his bother was there - it was all day with dinner on the grounds."

Mrs. Eye was born on July 1, 1899 to Mr. and Mrs. John Carver and was partially raised at the "Cristy Place" near the Furman McCarson home on Halsbury Avenue before moving to a location on the Stoney Mountain Road. That house is now gone leaving only the old "smoke house" standing. Mrs. Eye explained that the shed built onto the smoke house was "Where Papa had his chicken nests".

Mr. and Mrs. Carver and some of their children were charter members of the newly dedicated church. Mrs. Eye was baptized at the Balfour Rock Quarry and joined the church about 1910. Mr. Carver was employed at the rock quarry then operated by Mr. Troy.

When asked, "Do you remember the Stoney Mountain Schoolhouse?" she replied "Yes, I went to the Stoney Mountain School!" As far as the building's present existence, she strongly inserted "Do you know the old Tony Constant place? - that's it. I can tell you that!" We were also informed that the Balfour Elementary School replaced the Stoney Mountain School.

How about the music in the early days of the church? Mrs. Eye commented, "We had an organ and we had a very good choir". As far as her participation in the choir she said, "No I wasn't quite old enough". Ethel and Louise Bowen (sisters of Jennie Bowen) were the organists. "We had Sunday night service I think sometime but not regular".

Horse and wagon was the accepted mode of transportation in 1908. Mrs. Eye recalled, "Papa would take the wagon to Balfour Church and Aunt Sally (Bowen) would go with us and we would have a regular service going and coming. We'd sing to the top of our voices. Honestly and truly she (Aunt Sally) was one of the most wonderful people that I have ever known in my life. She was just as full of fun as she could be and yet she was just as sincere as the best person on earth. She was really a wonderful christian".

Family worship was also a highlight in her life. "I guess one of my first recollections was my daddy having family prayer with us", she said, "Mama would read the Bible and we would have family prayer". These thoughts brought out the comment, "Well, I'll tell you - I don't think anybody in this world ever had a better mother than I did."

Her face seemed to light up afresh when someone asked if she was aware of the Hefner wedding being the first one performed in the church. Her response was, "That was my sister - my sister Edith - she married Walter Hefner, I was there!"

How about the orphanage in Balfour, do you remember it? "Oh yes, I certainly do - very well. A man by the name of Temple operated it." She told us that it was later moved to Black Mountain.

She referred to the railroad and the station near the Berkeley Road crossing where passengers boarded. The post office was also in the same vicinity with Mr. Josh Rhodes as one of the attendants.

Some of the other names that she recalled in those early church years were: Mr. Spence that donated the land on which the church was built, Mr. Joe Newman and Mr. and Mrs. Furman McCarson. She did not know what churches or areas that the people came from that made up the charter membership of Balfour Church.



When asked to compare the style of church services then and now, she observed that there was more sincerity in the former days. Her comments were, "They probably felt their religion more back then than they do now. It was more real to them."

The Carver family later became involved in other parts of the area and came back to visit Balfour occasionally. Mrs. Eye is presently a member of the First Baptist Church in Hendersonville and is still a great inspiration to those who come in contact with her.



**THE OLD SMOKE HOUSE and attached shed Mr. Carver used to raise chickens.**

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### **Did You Know...**

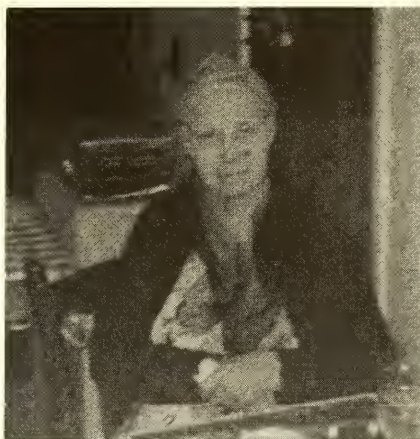
That our first pastor, Rev. W.A. Morris, was also the first pastor of East Flat Rock 1st Baptist

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## OLD TIMERS



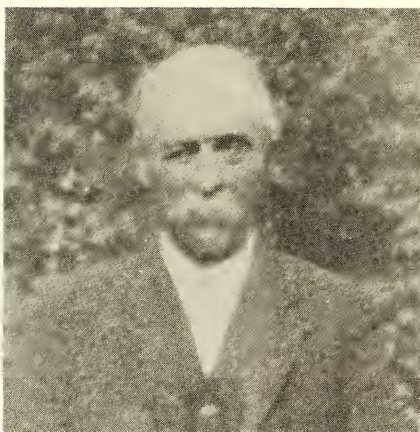
MRS. JAMES W. ODOM



MRS. MAMMIE HILL



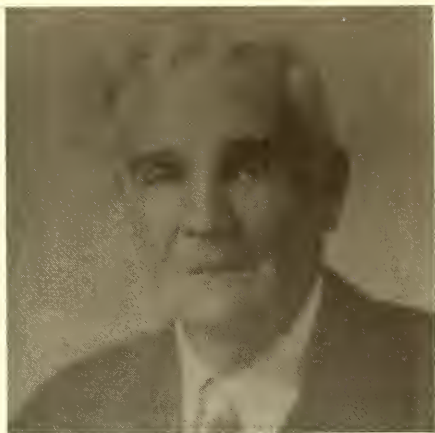
MR. & MRS. JOHN CARVER & FRANCES



MR. JOSEPH NEWMAN



“UNCLE BEN” RAINES standing in front of the old church. Sunday School, Training Union, and building fund record boards are displayed on the wall. At the right is the church’s World War Two Service Men’s Honor Roll. Uncle Ben was both deacon and church custodian for several years.



**MR. WEBSTER ERWIN**



**MRS. WEBSTER ERWIN**



**MR. & MRS. FURMAN McCARSON**  
celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on June 5, 1960.

### **God's Word Says...**

He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

**John 3**



## EARLY MEMBERS 1908-1924

J.E. Allen	Morning Collens	Elen Justice
B.M. Allen	Roy Collens	James Lee
Liley Allen	L.J. Collens	Surmantha Lee
Lee Allen	Gasey Collens	Casey Lee
Hellon Allen	Siler Collens	Lowler Lee
Ethel Arington	Elcey Condry	Travis Livett
W.W. Bagwell	Cordia Corn	Nelie Livett
S.A. Bagwell	I.P. Case	Marg McCarson
Volney Bagwell	I.T. Case	James McCarson
Miniey Bagwell	Louis Case	James J.W. McCarson
Caley Bowen	W.P. Case	Furmen McCarson
Jannie Bowen	Oat Condrey	John McCarson
Loueus Bowen	Elen Condrey	Bowth McCarson
Ethel Bowen	Molie Carver	Saley McHan
Louice Bradly	General Case	Elen McCarson
Waldton Burg	Vaden Constat	Aney Mintes
John Bishop	Iris Constant	Sarah Mury
Rachel Bishop	Paul Corn	Mary Mury
Moley Byers	Louis Case	Hicks McCarson
Olen Byers	Mrs. Louis Case	Eler Hyder Mury
Hoke Bagwell	E.L. Collens	Adline Mury
Ider Brown	Mrs. E.L. Collens	W.A. Mason
George Brown	Miss Marthe Collens	Mrs. W.A. Mason
Rebeca Brown	Miss Emie Collens	Etter Mason
Maud Brown	Miss Ruth Collens	Lavada Mason
Gather Briggs	John L. Collens	Willey Mason
J.W. Bradley	Mrs. Salie Collens	Fred Mason
J.W. Briggs	Joseph Dunlap	Mrs. J.W. Mearmon
Delia Briggs	Faney Dunlap	Edgur Newman
Mrs. J.W. Burge	Henry Dill	Joseph Newman
Nina Briggs	Walter Flynn	M.L. Newman
James Barnwell	John Hill	L.G. Newman
Lula Barnwell	Oler Hill	J.C. Newman
Mis Burges	Oat Hollensworth	J.W. Newman
Mrs. Sallie Byars	Otis Huggins	Mrs. J.W. Newman
Rora Blythe	Giffen Justice	Leeanor Newman
Elizabeth Blythe	Glover Justice	Dewey Newman
Amer Corn	W.B. Justice	James Oarr
Maney Corn	Savanah Justice	Rev. C.E. Puett
Deler Corn	Mammie Justice	Beney Rainns
Fred Corn	Lee Ande Justice	Benn Rainns
John Carver	Mrs. Lee Ande Justice	E.J. Rhodes
Alice Carver	Joey Justice	Nanny Thomas
Mamey Carver	Ethel Jamison	Edd Tucker
Edeth Carver	Sibell Justice	J.E. Tucker
Frases Carver	J.H. Johnson	James Wright
Walter Constant	Saile Johnson	Joseph Wright
Mrs. Walter Constant	W.J. Justice	Fradie Wright
S.J. Collens	Mrs. W.S. Justice	

## THE CHURCH BUILDINGS

The first recorded meeting place of what is now Balfour Baptist Church was in a building which is still in existence on Stoney Mountain Road, formally known as County Home Road. This building was known as Stoney Mountain School House; therefore, the congregation took the name of Stoney Mountain Baptist Church. Apparently, the small group met there until the early months of 1908 when they moved into a new structure at the intersection of what is now US 25 and Berkeley Road. At that time, the name was changed to Balfour Baptist Church. Due to the construction of Balfour Mills and 105 mill houses, it became necessary in 1924 to add several rooms to the church building to accommodate new families settling in this village.



**STONEY MOUNTAIN School House**



**ORIGINAL BALFOUR Baptist Church before any remodeling.**



**BALFOUR BAPTIST Church after remodeling. Picture taken about 1960.**

As the congregation continued to grow, dedicated believers began to see the need of larger and more adequate facilities. These thoughts became reality on October 10, 1954 when ground breaking took place on a previously acquired piece of property, approximately 600 yards North of present site on US 25.



**VIEW INSIDE of the old church.**



"The Church with the Spirit of the Old Country Church"

" WELCOME "

## Balfour Baptist Church

BILL HUNTLEY, PASTOR

Balfour, North Carolina

Sunday School Supt.  
Ezekiel Dumlup

Asst. Superintendent  
Raleigh Maxwell

H. T. U. Director  
Edna Corn

W. M. U. President  
Helen Seigler

Organist  
Veda Ervin

Pianist  
Francis Hill

Chairman of Deacons  
Will Mills

Chairman of Trustees  
Ernest Ervin

Treasurer  
Dan Lyda

Church Clerk  
Emerson Seigley

Chorister  
Harvey Ervin

1701 Clear Creek Road  
Hendersonville, N. C.  
September 27, 1951

Dear Friends in Christ:

You are especially invited to bring your lunch and take part in the home coming and ground breaking for the new Balfour Baptist Church, Sunday, October 10, at 11:00 A.M.

The new church will cost approximately \$160,000.00, and the auditorium will have a seating capacity of 800 people.

If it is impossible for you to attend this service, we will appreciate any offering you wish to send, for we believe you will want to have a part in this worthy cause.

Sincerely yours,

*Dan R. Lyda*  
Dan R. Lyda

DFL:db

Enclosures

"Lifting up Jesus in Sermon, Song and Testimony"



GROUND BREAKING Oct. 10, 1954: Left to Right: F.M. McCarson, Raleigh Maxwell, Emma Anderson, Faith Searcy, Earnest Erwin, Marie Huntley, Will Mills, Edna Corn, Rev. Carl Blythe, Bill Parham, Rev. W.C. Huntley (Pastor), Helen Seigler, Zeke Dunlap, Lucille Smith, Beulah Erwin, Dan Lyda, Ed Justus, Ben Raines.



DAN AND EULA LYDA

The construction of the new church building at 2511 Asheville Highway continued for approximately 6 years, and on August 7, 1960, the congregation met at the old church for the last time and made its departure to its new home. A procession was formed and sang "Onward Christian Soldiers" as they marched to the new location.



**CONGREGATION** preparing to depart from old building.



**CONGREGATION** proceeding down US 25 to new church home.



**ARRIVING** at new church location.

### **Did You Know...**

That bats literally fell out of the bell tower into the auditorium of the old church?

For lack of funds, the church was compelled to meet in the basement of the new structure, with a large assembly room surrounded by 12 classrooms. This arrangement continued until April 9, 1961, when the main sanctuary was finally completed.





**STEEPLE BEING** prepared to be mounted on the new church.



**COMPLETED CHURCH** building as it is today.



## PARSONAGES

The first known parsonage used by Balfour Baptist Church was a rented home located on the County Home Road, owned by W.R. and Mammie Hill. This building was used by Rev. Otto Parham and family in the early 40's until a new pastor's home was built beside the church facing US 25 (approximately 1946). Three pastors lived in this home: Rev. Otto Parham, Rev. W.C. Huntley, Rev. C.V. McCarley.



**FIRST** known parsonage on County Home Road.



**PARSONAGE** built in the late 40's beside the church on US 25 near Berkeley Road.

Later, a land exchange was made between the church and Arthur Warren for his 19 acres and house located at the extremity of Lyndhurst Drive. This was used by Rev. McCarley until after the purchase of the Russell property (6 acres) in 1972. Both the McCarleys and the Condred Pirkles used the Nellie Russell house as a parsonage until the present parsonage, located across the highway from the church, at the intersection of US 25 and Halsbury Avenue, was completed in 1974, where Rev. Pirkle moved in. Rev. Thomas now occupies this home.



**PARSONAGE** previously owned by Arthur Warren.



**THE "NELLIE RUSSELL"** house was Pastor's home.



**OUR PRESENT PARSONAGE**

### **God's Word Says...**

But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

**I Cor. 2:14**

### **OTHER BUILDINGS**

Two other major buildings were constructed by the church. Due to the extensive damage done by fire to the auditorium portion of the church on April 5, 1968, there came a necessity for a place for the congregation to worship. After 5 weeks of meeting in a warehouse in Hendersonville, the church and community combined hearts and hands to erect a new building on the northeast corner of church property for a temporary worship site. The concrete block walls for this 40 x 80 building were laid in a single work day. According to church records, the congregation resumed worship in this structure on May 19, 1968 and continued until the basement area was repaired and ready for use in December 1968.

Later a concrete block building 50 x 90 was constructed on the back side of the former Russell property for the purpose of maintaining buses used in the church bus ministry. This property was later sold for business when the bus ministry was phased out.

Seven houses were acquired by the church in the purchase of property from W.A. Henderson and Russell heirs. Before being demolished, 6 of these houses were used by students attending Fruitland Baptist Institute. One is currently used by a church staff member.



April 5  
1968



**AN OUTSIDE VIEW** of the Balfour Baptist Church shows the front of the church which held the steeple. Early arrivals at

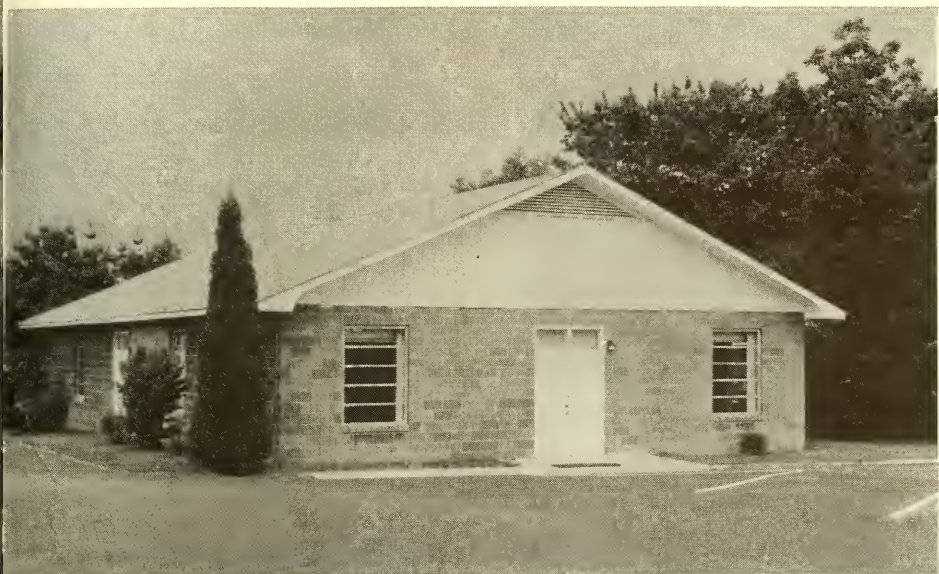
the scene said the fire started in the steeple —Times-News photo.



**DAMAGE** caused by an early morning fire at Balfour Baptist Church today is indicated by this photograph taken after fire-fighting operations had ceased. The scene looks toward the rear of the sanctuary

showing a portion of the caved-in roof, the balcony and debris-covered pews. The fire was discovered shortly after 3 a.m. Witnesses said the blaze was first noticed in the church steeple.—Times-News photo.

## Blaze Discovered Early Today



**BUILDING CONSTRUCTED** for temporary worship during fire damage — now used for a fellowship building.



**PREVIOUS HOME** of W.A. Henderson now used as home of church secretary.

### **Did You Know...**

That the old church never had inside bathrooms?



## THE PASTORIAL MINISTRY

Hebrews 13:7 tells us to "Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation." These words quickly reveal what God thinks of his preachers and what attitude we need to have toward them. A church probably realizes the value of a pastor more during the weeks, and sometimes months, following the resignation of it's pastor. It is so evident that a church cannot operate as a church unless God's annointed servant is at the helm.

There is no way to express the effect of a pastor's life in a church and its community - but we must continually thank God for them. The Bible teaches some men's works follow after them; therefore, their influence and planting of spiritual seeds can well be felt many years after their life has ceased on earth.

The earliest pastors often had to serve 2 or more churches at one time. Many times, they would arrive in the community on Saturday and stay through the Sunday night meetings, visiting in the homes of different members. Because of this situation, the first meetings were held inconsistently, starting monthly and progressing to bi-monthly, and finally to a weekly basis. It is interesting to note the annual salary of the pastor at Balfour in 1915 was \$60.00 to cover all this traveling expense.

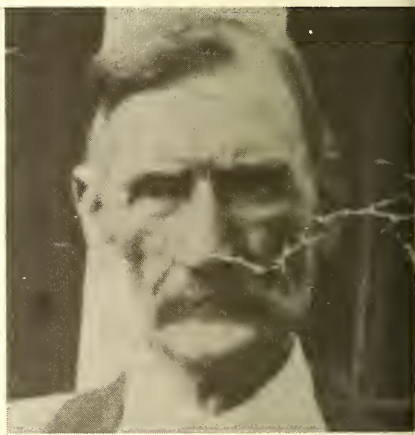
Two of the greatest sins probably in the church today are failing to pray for the pastor and failing to spiritually hear his messages. They are taken too often by the congregation as just another piece of furniture in the sanctuary. It's reasonable to believe that this world would be a much better place to live if the churches had always taken heed to God's messages sent through his called messengers.

Until the year of 1966, the pastors of this church were apparently elected annually. This election was decided by simple majority. In the calling of Curtis McCarley, the church decided on an indefinite call, which is still standard policy. This is now ruled by 75% of the voting membership.

Below are partial biographical sketches of eighteen pastors that God has blessed Balfour Baptist Church with. The information is as received from the pastors (four of which are still living), from family, friends, and other sources. Although the sketches are incomplete, there should be enough information to make you more acquainted with them and be blessed in seeing how God has used them:



REV. W.A. MORRIS



REV. C.D. COLE

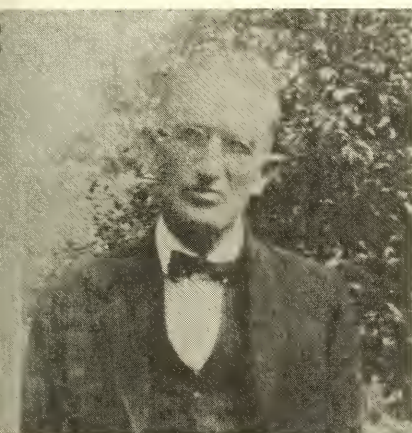




**REV. R.N. PRATT**



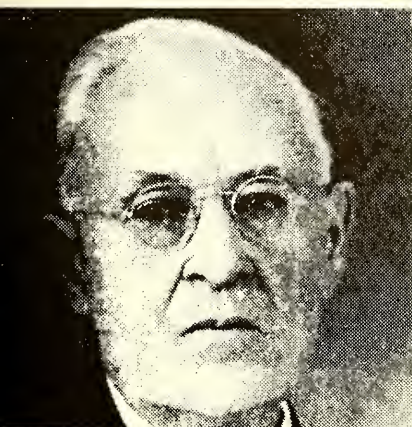
**REV. J.R. LINER**



**REV. J.B. ARLEDGE**



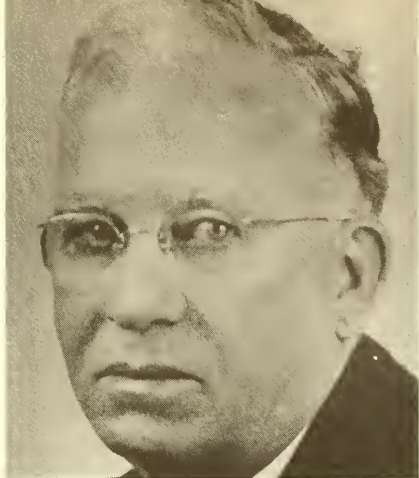
**REV. M.K. SINCLAIR**



**REV. SAM HUNTLEY**



**REV. PINK CORN**



**REV. HENRY MACE**



**REV. N.B. PHILLIPS**



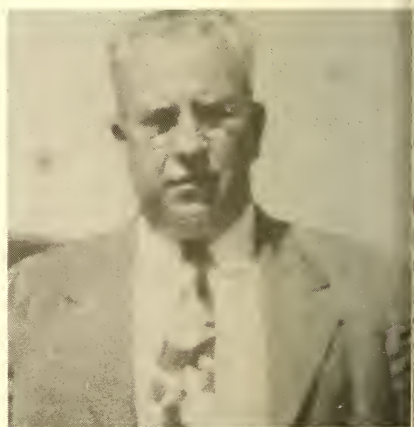
**REV. M.L. LEWIS**



**REV. CARL BLYTHE**



**REV. WARREN H. HARBIN**



**REV. OTTO PARHAM**





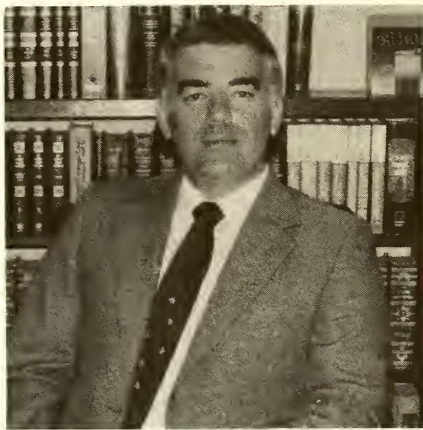
**REV. W.C. HUNTLEY**



**REV. CURTIS McCARLEY**



**REV. CONDRED PIRKLE**



**REV. DEWEY THOMAS**

### **Did You Know...**

That Sandra Corn and Robert Houck was the first couple to be married in the new auditorium of our church? Rev. Curtis McCarley performed the ceremony on March 8, 1968.

## **WILLIAM ALEXANDER MORRIS (1908-1911 & 1915-1917)**

*(The following account of Rev. W.A. Morris' life was provided by East Flat Rock First Baptist Church and was apparently written by one of his children)*

William Alexander Morris was born December 28, 1859, the son of Charles S. Morris and Elizabeth Taylor Morris in Henderson County.

He received his education at the Old Judson College where he was taught by his uncle, Captain Brownlow Morris. He taught school for 10 years.

On December 27, 1883, he was married to Anberry Orr, and to them was born six children, of whom four survive.

At about 1900, he began preaching. He was one of the outstanding "Circuit Riders" of that time. He pastored many churches in Buncombe, Polk, Transylvania and Rutherford and Henderson Counties, often pastoring five churches at one time, in which case, he would preach at four churches, taking one each Sunday, and then he would preach at another church on the fifth Sunday.

His transportation was horse-back or by foot. He walked many miles between his churches and home. He never had a salary, or asked for an offering. On a number of occasions, he would hold two or three week revival and receive nothing for it.

On his way home from his churches, he would stop at houses enroute, and have prayer meeting and many times new churches were organized as a result of these meetings. He organized over 2 churches during his ministry.

He loved little children, and they loved him and would flock around him where ever he went.

He baptized over 2500 people during his ministry. There was a man in one community where he preached who was very ill. During his illness, he had received Christ as his Saviour and he did not want to die without being baptized. It was impossible to move him, so my father baptized him in the bath tub.

The Rev. Morris passed away January 15, 1941.

## **COLUMBUS DUREN COLE 1911-1912**

Columbus Duren Cole, referred to in the early church minutes as Rev. C.D. Cole, was born on September 3, 1859 in Ducktown, Tenn. Very little information was found concerning his younger years. He was married to Essie Nanney and has one granddaughter, Mrs. Stephen Pace, living in the county in the Dana section.

Rev. Cole was known to have pastored the following Baptist churches in Henderson County: Balfour, Mt. Moriah, and Dana Baptist. He passed away in the Fletcher Hospital (known as the "Mt. San" at that time) after living 82 years, 5 months, and 18 days. He was buried in the Refugee Baptist Church graveyard on February 22, 1942.

## **R.N. PRATT 1913**

After practically no information on Rev. R.N. Pratt, it was a blessing to come in contact with Mrs. Tom Orr, now age 84, of the Howard Gap Road. Being a former member of his church, Ebenezer in her youth, she remembered Brother Pratt well and was a piano student of Mrs. Pratt.

Mrs. Orr also informed us that Rev. Pratt left this area for Anderson, S.C. to teach the Bible in college, which was found to be Anderson College. Dr. Pratt taught here from 1922 until 1927 and had Pratt Hall named in his honor.

Dr. Pratt was born in Abbeville County in 1849, son of R. Pratt and Louise Ellis Pratt. He attended Erskine College, Furman University and Southern Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Gertrude, had 4 children, 1 of which is still surviving - Constance Pratt Sweedenburg of Anderson, S.C.

His S.C. pastorates include 2nd Baptist Church of Columbia, 1st Baptist Church of Bennettsville, 1st Baptist Church of Abbeville, and he was also Chaplain for the House of Representatives for S.C. In Henderson County, he pastored the following churches: French Broad, Balfour, Fruitland, and Ebenezer Baptist Church.

Rev. Pratt passed away on March 23, 1928 after 50 years of ministry and activities in many educational circles.

## **JAMES REUBEN LINER 1913-1915**

*(The following information and photo were graciously supplied by Oak Grove Baptist Church, Clyde, N.C. which Rev. Liner founded in 1899.)*

James Reuben Liner was born in Haywood County on July 31, 1874. He was married to Mary Wyatt, also of Haywood County. They had 10 children - 6 boys and 4 girls, all deceased except 2 who live in Charlotte, N.C.

Rev. Liner pastored churches in Henderson, Haywood, Buncombe, and Transylvania counties, often serving 2 or 3 at one time. Along with a Methodist minister by the name of Jimison, he held Bible meetings in several counties also.

Endowed with a determination and desire to live for God, Rev. Liner worked diligently toward the goal of winning others to Christ. He died June 8, 1950 and is buried in the Ratcliff Cove Cemetery in Haywood County.

### **JOHN BLACKSTONE ARLEDGE 1917-1918**

*The below information was received in an interview with Rev. Arledge's daughter, Mrs. Helen Wyatt from Tryon, N.C.)*

John B. Arledge was born in Polk County on May 18, 1863 and was married to Janie Newman on October 8, 1885. He was later licensed to preach by Mount Lebanon Church on November 19, 1901. The Arledges had eleven children with only three living at the present.

Saluda was home for the preacher while carrying out his ministry in this area. He would board a train in Saluda on Saturday, once a month, and come to Hendersonville or to Horse Shoe to moderate church business meetings or preach. He would divide his time and days between the churches that he pastored here. Usually he would return home by train on Mondays unless he had a funeral to conduct, which might delay him until Wednesday getting home. He had no formal education, but through self-study and reading, he became a giant for the Lord.

Mrs. Wyatt remembers his preaching in the following churches: Mt. Moriah, and Balfour in Henderson County; Friendship and Silver Creek Baptist in Saluda; Morgan Chapel and Ingleside (which he helped establish) in Landrum, S.C.; and Coopers Gap Baptist Church.

Rev. Aldredge suffered a stroke while conducting a service at Silver Creek Baptist Church as his brother was leading in prayer. He lived about three more years with his daughter, Helen (not married at that time), before passing away on Oct. 18, 1934.

### **WADE F. SINCLAIR 1918-1920**

Wade F. Sinclair was born Aug. 16, 1883 in Gerton, NC. Although he did not finish high school, God greatly used him in this area. He was saved at the age of 14 and was married to Jennette Justus on Aug. 13, 1902. They had three sons and one daughter: Frank - deceased, Ruth - housewife in Lancaster, S.C., Hubert - deceased (was a Baptist minister in S.C.), and Herbert - an electrical engineer in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Mr. Sinclair preached his first message at Middle Fork Baptist Church in August, 1901 and was ordained Dec. 5, 1913 in Inman, S.C. He pastored 25 churches in North and South Carolina, including Hoopers Creek, Balfour, Mt. Gilead, French Broad, and Calvary - all in Henderson County.

Rev. Sinclair was moderator of the Carolina Baptist Association in 1919 and was active in evangelism throughout his ministry. He was founder and director of Faith Christian Day School and in 1969 a new building was erected in his honor. On one single occasion in Winnsboro, S.C., he baptized 145 people. Mr. Sinclair passed away on Sept. 10, 1965.

### **S.F. (SAM) HUNTLEY 1920-1923**

S.F. (Sam) Huntley lived from April 6, 1864 to June 25, 1946. He was known as the "Great Revivalist" and pastored churches until he was 82. From 1906 to 1944 he pastored 22 churches in McDowell, Polk, and Henderson Counties. His longest pastorate was for 24 years at Ebenezer. He was born in Rutherford County and studied the "Blue Back Speller." Later, on Feb. 3, 1882, he married Lula Hill. They had seven children.

Mr. Huntley was converted in the fall of 1901, called to preach in 1902, and was ordained in 1905.

In addition to the churches he pastored, he preached in 77 other churches and also in schools, homes, and prison camps. He baptized 1266, conducted 1391 funerals, and kept a running record on all names, dates, and places. He bought and wore out five new cars.



## **R.P. (PINK) CORN 1923-1924**

R.P. (Pink) Corn raised a family of six children after marrying Amanda Elizabeth Maxwell on May 8, 1887. All six are now deceased. They were as follows: Gertrude Estell (married Hendrix Justus), Josephine (married Baxter Lanning), Essie Ola (married Glaspy Newman), Robert Elbert (married Lavada Irene Henderson), Jesse Albert (married Mallee Gertrude Henderson) and William. Jesse Albert and Robert Elbert were twins.

Rev. Corn was born April 4, 1867 in Henderson County and attended Fruitland Institute. He was ordained to preach on Jan. 12, 1907. Other than Balfour, he pastored Beulah Baptist and possibly Bat Cave Baptist. Rev. Corn passed away on March 6, 1944.

## **HENRY HAYWOOD MACE 1924-1925**

Henry H. Mace was born in Pickens County, S.C. on May 23, 1883 and was married to Nancy Carolina King on Feb. 11, 1903. They had six children: Otis Arnold (deceased), Joe K. (retired), Sidney M. (deceased), Rosa Edna Hammond (retired), Roy Lenoir (deceased), and John H. Mace (retired).

With limited education, Rev. Mace was used greatly by the Lord in this area. His spiritual life began to flourish in his early 30's and he was ordained to preach at the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church.

His pastorates include the following Baptist churches: Jones Gap, Balfour, Mountain Valley West Hendersonville (which he helped found and was the first pastor there), Pleasant Grove, Cedar Springs, and Glenwood in Easley, S.C.

Rev. Henry Mace was the grandson of Rev. George Washington Mace who was one of the first Circuit Riders ministering to many churches and people in Tennessee, Virginia, Georgia, North and South Carolina. His last sermon was at Mt. Olivet Church - the same church in which his grandson many years later, preached his funeral.

Rev. Mace labored on the associational level as well as in evangelism, preaching revivals in several churches. He never retired, but pastored Mountain Valley Baptist Church until his death on Sept. 28, 1955.

## **N.B. PHILLIPS 1926**

N.B. Phillips was born at Mars Hill, N.C. on May 21, 1876. He gained his education at Mars Hill College and Wake Forest University. He was married to Zenora Hunter on June 15, 1902 and had eight children: Clarabel, Walter, Broadus, Edgar, Ruth, Fred, Eugene, and Juanita. He was saved at Little Ivey Baptist Church at the age of twelve.

Among the churches he pastored were: Balfour Baptist, Fairview Baptist for twelve years, and a East Flat Rock First Baptist for 38 years. Mr. Phillips retired from pastoring in Aug. 1963 and passed away April 18, 1973.

## **MARVIN LEE LEWIS 1926-1928**

Marvin Lee Lewis was born Aug. 6, 1888 and died Oct. 20, 1970 at the age of 82. He was a graduate of Hiwassee Institute in Georgia.

He served as pastor in several churches in Cherokee and Clay Counties before coming to the Asheville area. He served pastorates in Asheville, Brevard, Lincolnton, Morganton, Hazelwood Asheville, and Candler. The churches in Henderson County that he pastored are as follows: Balfour Fletcher, Dana, Tuxedo, and Refuge Baptist Church. He also served as moderator of the Haywood County Baptist Association until his retirement in 1954.

During retirement, he was used by several churches as interim pastor and also operated his own nursery for a few years.

Mr. Lewis was married to Carrie Mae Davis. They had five sons: Otis K. of Brevard, Willard J. of Tuxedo, Carson of Zirconia, Fred of Candler, and Grady L. Lewis of Hendersonville. They also had one daughter, Mrs. Charles Fox of Asheville, N.C.

## **C.E. (CARL) BLYTHE 1928-1941**

Carl E. Blythe was born in the Pleasant Grove section of Henderson County on Oct. 27, 1882. He was the son of Mr. F.H. Blythe who was a miller in his community. Carl married Ella Orr on Dec

l, 1902 and they had six children: Oscar (deceased), Coy (deceased), Lois B. Powell, Florence edel, Kate Dalton, and Jewel Riggs.

He was converted at the age of 13 and felt the call to preach for over 20 years before entering the inistry. This decision was made as he was stricken down with pneumonia for three months which oughit him near death. On Jan. 24, 1920, he was ordained and began his ministry with the Turkey reek Baptist Church where he served as pastor. Other churches that he pastored are: Holly Sprgs, Crab Creek, Pleasant Hill, Valley Hill, Carr's Hill, Pleasant Grove, Tryon Second, Pisgah orest, Mud Creek, Beulah, Mountain Page, Balfour, Etowah, Cooper's Gap, Boyleston, enezer, and Blantyre. Rev. Blythe helped ordain 10 other preachers, performed 250 marriages, nducted 1400 funerals, baptized 1600, pastored 6 churches at one time for seven years, never had vacation, and never "failed to preach on the Lord's Day."

*The above statistics cover the first 35 years of his ministry. He passed away on Jan. 17, 1964).*

#### **WARREN H. HARBIN 1941**

Rev. Warren H. Harbin was born in Seneca, S.C. April 12, 1890 and died in Williamston, S.C. n July 21, 1967 at the age of 78. He was the son of Webb and Susan Phillips Harbin and was marred to Lilly Toccoa Land.

His last pastorate was at Calvary Baptist Church in Williamston prior to retirement. He formerly d pastored at Woodside, West Greenville, and Flat Rock Baptist Church in S.C.; and Balfour aptist Church in N.C.

The Harbins had 5 boys and 1 girl. All are deceased except Mrs. Earl (Grace) Dillard of Clempn and Billy of Williamston.

Bro. Harbin only served Balfour Baptist Church for one year.

#### **OTTO PARHAM 1942-1948**

Otto Parham was born in Leicester, N.C. on March 9, 1903. On June 8, 1927 he was married to innie Edmonds. They had five children: Betty P. Caldwell, Waynesville, N.C.; Billy C. Parham, ichmond, Va.; James T. Parham, Canton, N.C.; Viola P. Stuart, Canton, N.C.; and Connie P. nkins, Waynesville, N.C.

Rev. Parham was converted at Elk Mountain Baptist church in 1920, answered the call to preach 1922 and was ordained October 26, 1923. He pastored the following Baptist churches: acodonia, Turkey Creek, Elk Mountain, Deaverview, Balfour, West Canton, Mt. Moriah, Horse oe, Allens Creek, and Holly Springs.

Rev. Parham retired from the pastorate in 1967 and served as Chaplain at the Haywood County ospital until 1985. He and his wife reside at the present in Waynesville, N.C.

#### **WILLIAM C. HUNTLEY 1948-1966**

William C. Huntley, with a total of 18 years at Balfour Baptist as pastor, was born on Nov. 3, 911 at Bat Cave, N.C. He was married to Marie Griffin on Nov. 27, 1935 and they have two ughters. He accepted Christ on Oct. 4, 1930 and started his ministry in 1931, with his ordination ollowing in 1932.

Rev. Huntley pastored 10 Baptist churches including Balfour, Hoopers Creek, and is presently the astor of East Hendersonville Baptist Church, where he has been for fifteen years. He is well known s an evangelist and states "Running well at 73 and still pastoring...Feel like Brother Caleb when he anted to take the mountain."

He gives the Holy Spirit credit for bringing him across 54 years of ministry and is confident that e is still secure in His care. Rev. Huntley has preached the gospel to Henderson County over radio ation WHKP for the past thirty-five years.

#### **CURTIS VANCE McCARLEY 1965-1973**

Curtis Vance McCarley began preaching in 1946 and was ordained in 1948. His physical birth ate was Jan. 16, 1930 and his spiritual birth date was 1937. On July 12, 1950, he was married to llie Edmonds and they had one son, Curtis Vance, Jr. who is also a pastor at this time.

Rev. McCarley was born in Anderson, S.C. and went to the Boys High School there. Later he nished North Greenville Junior College, Furman University, Southwestern Baptist Theological

Seminary in Forth Worth, Texas, and also attended Luther Rice Seminary in Jacksonville, Florida

His pastorates included: Cox Chapel Baptist, Merritta, S.C.; Oak Grove Baptist, Landrum, S.C.; First Baptist, Springtown, Texas; Mtn. View Baptist, Cowpens, S.C. and Balfour Baptist.

His associational work consisted of: Moderator of Association in Texas, Chairman of Evangelism in Texas, and was on several committees until he became in such demand for Bible Conferences and evangelistic meetings. While pastoring Balfour, Rev. McCarley averaged 15 to 20 revivals a year. Prior to his coming to Balfour, he was in full time evangelism for 4 years. He was fatally injured in a dump truck accident while spreading gravel beside the pastorium on Jan. 25, 1973.

## **B. CONDRED PIRKLE 1973-1980**

B. Condred Pirkle was born in Hall County on November 4, 1932. His educational background is as follows: East Crips High School in Cordele, Ga., Wayland Baptist College in Plainview, Texas; Mercer University in Macon, Ga.; and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth, Texas. He graduated from the latter in May 1965. On June 26, 1955 he was married to Lucy Lee Sims of Cordele, Ga., who is also a graduate of Mercer University. They have no children.

Rev. Pirkle was saved in August 1944 and answered the call to preach in 1954. He was licensed to preach in May 1955 and was ordained in November 1956. He served the following Baptist Churches as pastor: Antioch in Richland, Ga.; Mt. Carmel, Dexter, Ga.; Macedonia in McIntyre, Ga.; B.H. Carroll Memorial in Ft. Worth, Texas; Tharpe Memorial in Perry, Ga.; and Balfour Baptist. Since then he has been busy in full time evangelism preaching in the North West, Plains States, Western States, Central, Northeast and Southeastern States. He has preached in area-wide crusades in Alabama and Georgia, as well as crusaded in India in 1974.

Three booklets entitled, "A Scriptural Guide to Personal Revivals", "A Scriptural Guide to Aids in Victorious Living", and "A Scriptural Guide to Walking in the Spirit" were written by him.

Rev. Pirkle's doctrinal position - "I believe the entire Bible to be the infallible, inerrant word of God and our final authority in policy and practice."

## **DEWEY A. THOMAS 1981-?**

Dewey A. Thomas was born in Lintz, Austria while his father was on a military assignment in Europe. He spent his teenage years in Ridgecrest, N.C. while living with his grandparents.

On August 7, 1971, he was married to Bettie Silver, formerly of Madison County. They have two daughters: Amy Lee, 8; and Laura Ann, 4 years old. They are anticipating bringing the total to three children within a few months.

Rev. Thomas was saved in June, 1974, called to preach in September of the same year, and was ordained on June 25, 1978. He attended Fruitland Baptist Institute, graduated from Wingate College in Charlotte, N.C. and is at the present pursuing his masters degree through Western Carolina University.

In the early years of his ministry, he served as youth director in the Skyland Methodist Church. In the association he has filled the offices of director of youth camp and was chairman of the Family Life Committee.

Rev. Thomas has served two Baptist Churches as pastor. He was at Macedonia in Jefferson, S.C. for three years and became the pastor of Balfour in April 1981, where he is currently ministering.

His thrill in serving the Lord presently cancels all thoughts of retirement, and the anticipation of the rapture causes death to be an afterthought.

### **Did You Know...**

That our church had Youth Rallies every Saturday night in the 50's?



## DEACON MINISTRY

The two church offices that have borne the blunt of the spiritual load across the years, even in difficult times, have been the pastors and deacons. Probably one of the most unnoticed and unappreciated places of service is that of the deacon. The name itself implies "servitude." So much effort put forth in the deacon role does not result in earthly praise, but more often their responsibilities conceal their lives "behind the scenes", where sometimes only God is taking note of their labors. The deacons' qualifications and job descriptions are laid out in I Timothy 3:8-13 where God places requirements on them similar to that of the preacher. Although the word "deacon" is found only once in the New Testament, other scriptures such as Acts 6 indicate that part of their responsibility is to free the pastor of anything that would prevent him from having time for prayer, Bible study, and preaching. No deacon can be effective without being filled with the Spirit.

One source listed four men as being the original "deacons or trustees" of the Balfour Baptist Church. They were J.E. Allen, James Lee, Riley Hoots, and Squire Collins. These same names are found frequently in the early church records as carrying other responsibilities too.

For the most part, the deacons were ordained by Balfour Church to serve an indefinite term only to be removed by resignation, transfer of membership, by request of the church for poor performance, or by death. Therefore, the number of men that have served as deacon is relatively small. The smallest number at one time was four and the largest number was twelve in the early 60's.

Throughout most of her history, Balfour's deacons served in many capacities where other churches would appoint a committee. They, along with the pastor, were the Nominating Committee, Finance Committee, Building and Grounds Committee, and about anything else that was needed. Their amount of knowledge, combined with long-term service and decision-making responsibilities, usually drew a high level of respect from the congregation.

In 1981, under the leadership of Rev. Dewey Thomas, the church adopted the rotation system for filling the deacon positions. This releases two active deacons and allows two new ones to go on. Each one serves for a period of 3 years. The present day deacon serves the pastor and church much more in prayer and spiritual support than in previous years.

Below is a list of deacons known to have served this church since 1908:

### ORIGINAL DEACONS:

J.E. Allen  
James Lee  
Riley Hoots  
Squire Collins

J.M. Allen	Harold Pruitt	Eugene Coker
Joseph Newman	Ed Whitley	L.P. Carter
E.J. Rhodes	Emerson Searcy	M.F. Morton
J.H. Johnson	George Seigler	F.M. McCarson
W.W. Bagwell	Voyle "Tip" Massey	B.H. Raines
J.C. Hill	Lee Hill	C.T. Callahan
J.W. Burge	Alexander Capps	E.S. Justus
W.B. Justice	Donnie Stepp	E.D. Dunlap
E.L. Collins	Bill Ward	E.A. Erwin
W.N. Shultze	Bobby Merrill	E. Dunlap
John Anderson	Harry Newman	Charles Ward
Howard Warren	Minuard Bailey	Mr. Tabor
Lemuel Brown	Krystler Jamerson	E.E. Matthews
Woodrow Maxwell	Bradley Searcy	George Burrough
Clarence Bentley	W.S. Justice	Harvey Erwin
Alonzo H. Pruitt	W.A. Mason	Bob Hammond
W.E. Hammond	J.P. Middleton	Will Mills



**DEACONS AND PASTORS in Late 40's. Front Row: Ben Raines, E.E. Matthews, Rev. W.C. Huntley, (Pastor). Back Row: Ernest Erwin, Harvey Erwin, Will Mills, E.S. Justus.**



**IN FRONT: Rev. Curtis McCarley (Pastor). Left to Right: Harvey Erwin, Will Mills, Harold Pruitt, Emerson Searcy, Ernest Erwin, Ed Whitley (Chairman), Lee Hill.**



## THE CHURCH CONFERENCE

The church conference is a meeting, a consultation, or a coming together of the body of the church to conduct the business of the church and to gain information about the affairs of the church on a regular basis as agreed on by the individual church. A conference can be "called" at any time. The church clerk is responsible for recording and keeping accurate records of these meetings. Also letters of dismissal from a church membership to unite with other churches of like faith and order are handled in conferences.

In the early years of Balfour Baptist Church, minutes were recorded to show conferences were called after the regular Sunday morning services. For example, the first service of the new church at Balfour, March 22, 1908, stated ... "by motion (the Church) went into Conference..."

Many copies of the early minutes included the sermon text, topic of the sermon, songs, and names of individuals who had any part of the service, and the amount of offerings for the pastor and for benevolence at that time. Saturday services were held, with a sermon, and then the conference. The following is an exact copy of the minutes recorded on Nov. 28, 1908. Saturday meeting 3:30 P.M. Came together by singing. Sermon by Pastor W.A. Morris. Went into conference. No business came before the body. By motion adjourned. Joseph Newman, Church Clerk.

In 1909 the church decided to set aside the 2nd and 4th Sundays for preaching and the Saturdays before these Sundays for other business.

In addition to the regular business matters of the church, the spiritual condition of the members was inquired into, and if there was any discord between the members, those reports were presented at the conferences. When a church member failed to walk as a Christian should walk, he was brought before the Church in a conference. In the Minutes from Saturday, Feb. 25, 1911, a member was charged with contempt to church and pastor. After some discussion, the brother acknowledged to the church for the talk he had against the church and pastor, said he was sorry, and the church accepted this acknowledgement. A sister was charged with disorderly conduct, and upon her own confession, was excluded from the church. Also a committee was appointed to talk with two other brothers about the way they were living and to try to get them back into the church. Other charges recorded in future minutes were unchristian conduct, being drunk, and non-attendance to church on a regular basis.

Other interesting recordings from our conference minutes.

Sept. 17, 1917...usual offering for the pastor taken...\$3.45. Sunday night collection was \$2.47.

Dec. 5, 1920...taken collection for Orphanage \$34.19. Free will offering for the pastor was \$5.53.

Feb. 1, 1925...first order of business...that the Balfour Baptist Church at its earliest convenience revise its church roll in order that we may know just how many active members in Balfour Baptist Church in order to make our reports correct to the association in which this church is located.

## COPIES OF OTHER BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES RECORDED IN THE EARLY PART OF THE CHURCH'S HISTORY

*Pastor's Copy*

*Business Meeting*

*Wednesday Evening*

*August 25, 1971*

*Balfour Baptist Church called in Conference by the Pastor, Rev. Curtis McCarley,  
report from Pastors*

*1. The Balfour Elementary School is using our building for three grades which equals  
six classrooms. Three classes are set up in the fellowship building, and three in the  
main building, one in the Intermediate Department, one in the Junior Department, and  
one in the Beginner Department. Because of this, the restrooms facilities are now  
being installed in the fellowship building, and on the 3rd floor of the main building.*

It was noted with appreciation that Bro. Newman of Newman Concrete Works donated the septic tank for these facilities. Also locks have been installed on doors to the auditorium and the Adult Assembly room. Pastor emphasized that children cannot be going in and out of the class room before or after the regular services of our church. Also Bro. Dwight Costner expressed the gratitude from the parents to the church for the use of our buildings for school purposes.

A motion was then entertained that the Balfour Baptist Church and adjacent building be used for the use of Balfour Elementary School which was recently burned. The motion was made by Bro. Emerson Searcy, seconded by several, and carried.

2. There is a need because of the recent fires for voluntary security at night for our buildings. The suggestion was that be in two's and the hours be from <sup>approximately</sup> midnight until daybreak.

A list of available men will be obtained and carried out by the Deacons.

A question arose about the use of firearms for this duty, and there were no objections.

3. The next order of business was the hard-surfacing of our parking area around the church buildings. The lowest bid submitted being \$6,000, approximate materials 4" stone, 1  $\frac{1}{2}$ " blacktop. After much discussion, a motion was entertained that the church borrow up to \$10,000 toward the building of a vestibule on the north side of the main church building (this had been discussed in previous conferences), the purchase of a bus, and the hard-surfacing of the parking area. Also it was noted that a special offering would be received to supplement the amount borrowed. The motion was: that the Balfour Baptist Church authorize the proper people, the Trustees, to consider the borrowing of up to \$10,000 toward the building of the vestibule, the purchase of a bus, and the hard-surfacing of the parking area, and that the Pastor and Deacons be responsible for further details as delegated by the Church. The motion was made by Bro. Lee Hill, seconded by Bro. Frank Cohn, and carried.

4. A teacher has requested that the Church allow her and her family to carpet the Fellowship building, and the rooms being used in the main building for school class rooms. The motion to allow this was made by Bro. Ed. Whitley, seconded by Bro. Emerson Searcy, carried.

5. A motion was made by Bro. Ed Sexton that the highway department be contacted to see if a light could be installed and a School Zone be designated in front of the church grounds for the safety of the children because of the necessity of crossing the highway several times a day for lunch and playground facilities. Motion seconded and carried.

A motion was also made by Bro. Emerson Searcy that we consider the placement of another fire hydrant in the vicinity of our church. Motion seconded and carried, with the resolution "when the money is available".

6. The final recommendation from Pastor and Deacons was that Bro. Lee Hill be added to the fellowship of Deacons of Balfour Baptist Church. Motion was made that Bro. Hill be added to the fellowship of Deacons, seconded and carried.

7. Bro. Gene Williams and his family are now occupying the brown house.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruby Pruitt, Church Clerk  
Ruby Pruitt, Church Clerk

July the 17 1912 the Baptist Church at Balfour  
held a Conference and appointed a Committee to see  
Sister [redacted] charge with Brethren the Seventh  
Commandment. By Moore and second Sis S. A. Bagwell  
and Mrs James Allen was appointed and all so to  
see [redacted] and the same charge by Moore and  
second W Moore was read to call Bro C. B. Hall  
for the Pastor for the ensuing year and he  
was elected for the year. And he accepted the  
call. by Moore and second, adjourned.  
C. B. Hale Mod.

Joseph Newman C. C.

~~~~~

Balfour Baptist church met  
Sunday Sept. 5, 1920 Summoned by  
the pastor Mathew the 5. chapter used  
offering \$11.81 Dismissed to meet  
Saturday before the first in Oct  
S. F. Huntly M. D.  
W. B. Justice, C. C.

**God's Word Says...**

likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we  
ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

**Romans 8:26**

## WHERE WERE YOU BAPTIZED?

Baptists generally agree that baptism should be by immersion. This conviction is substantiated by scriptures in the New Testament such as Acts 8:38, "And they went down both in to the water..." and also in verse 39, "And when they were come up out of the water..." and again in John 3:23 says, "And John also was baptizing in Aenon...because there was much water there..."

Although the "how" may be settled, the "where" could result in several answers for the members of Balfour Baptist Church. It's very likely that we don't have the complete story, but we thought it would be interesting to try to satisfy a few "where" by means of pictures and reports from others.

One place of baptism that was cited by a former member was the old "rock quarry" on the opposite side of the village of which we were unable to acquire a picture. Part of the church had the opportunity to see Rev. McCarley baptize one candidate (Ray Pace) in the French Broad River near Weaverville, North Carolina. It is reported that Rev. W.A. Morris baptized a critically ill man in his bathtub in the early 1900's.

Other places that our church has baptized are shown below:



**BAPTIZING IN Balfour Mills pool around 1930 with Rev. Blythe (with towel around neck).**

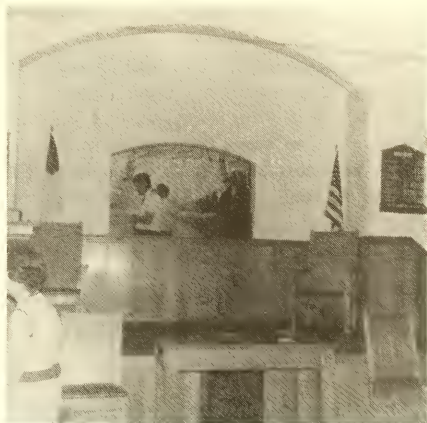
### Did You Know...

That our church once had 2 week Revivals and 2 week Vacation Bible Schools?





**ALPH AND JACKIE Duckett** being baptized by Rev. W.C. Huntley in company pool.



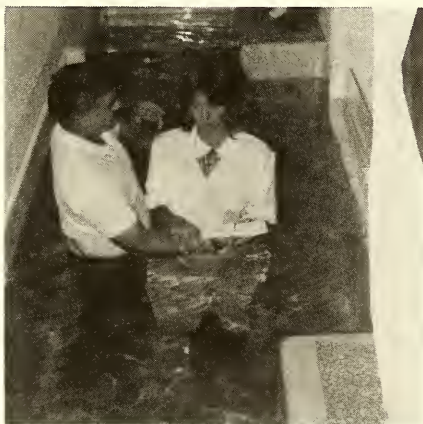
**CLEM CABE** being baptized by Rev. W.C. Huntley in Mt. View Baptist Church.



**REV. CURTIS McCARLEY** performing baptism in a home-made portable baptistry in the basement of the new church.



**REV. DEWEY THOMAS** standing in the Baptistry of our present church.



**REV. DEWEY THOMAS** baptizing Carol Mullinax, June, 1985.

## CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Balfour, probably like most Baptist Churches, varies radically in membership depending on times, circumstances in the community, and the general atmosphere of the church. In 1908 the number of charter members that Balfour started with is uncertain, but according to informants gathered from the early business minutes and the fact that a new church building was erected is proof enough that quantity and quality was sufficient to get the work done. Frequently at the end of the year, the total membership would be shown in the church record books. Below are a few numbers that were found which might prove interesting:

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| 1912 - 66  | 1929 - 206 |
| 1913 - 75  | 1940 - 336 |
| 1915 - 102 | 1959 - 510 |
| 1923 - 74  | 1974 - 777 |
|            | 1976 - 737 |

As has been previously mentioned, the construction of Balfour Mills in 1924 had a measurable impact on the size of our church congregation with the influx of about 112 new families in the community. This increased the church attendance to the extent of having to enlarge the building.

The church continued with slow growth in the years to come. The Second World War took many young men from us, leaving vacancies to be filled by their families and loved ones who seemed at that time to begin a new dedication to the church, to God, and a greater concern for the young men in uniform.

In the early '50's, Balfour experienced a prolonged period of spiritual awakening which caused its attendance to flourish again. During the latter part of this period, a record was broken in crossing the 400 attendance mark in Sunday School on a particular Sunday. A phonograph record was literally broken at this service over the head of Sunday School Superintendent, Zeke Dunlap by his assistant, Raleigh Maxwell. This was the Sunday School's way of celebrating the accomplishment.

A slow decline in membership and attendance followed until Curtis McCarley came as pastor in 1966. His outreach vision was supported by methods such as church training, visitation program, bus ministry, grading Sunday School classes, etc. All this extended effort helped the church to grow to a membership of over 800 by the late 60's. Rev. McCarley's fatal accident in 1971 stunned the members even to the extent that some said the church would never mean the same to them again. Some left following this tragedy.

Rev. Condred Pirkle, as next pastor, faced a crucial situation that probably no pastor could in any way enjoy. In the meantime, bus ministry enthusiasm was wearing off, causing a decline in attendance once again. This was followed by a growing dissatisfaction resulting in divisions within the church, which led to the loss of hundreds of members in the late 70's. After the waters began to settle, a large group of former members, along with others, rallied around Rev. C.D. Johnson, who started a new church - The Stoney Mountain Baptist Church, located at the corner of Baystone Drive and U.S. 25.

Under the leadership of Rev. Dewey Thomas, Balfour recognized their roll was cluttered by many inactive members. A membership committee was formed and efforts were made, first to restore those to active status, and secondly, to clear the books of uninterested people. The new enrollment number stood at 204 at that time. A slow growth has been experienced since then and our number is now 237.

### Did You Know...

That the fire which burned our church was reported by a train crewman about 3:30 in the morning

*This 1933 report was composed while Rev. Blythe was pastor of Balfour and Mud Creek at the same time. Only the Balfour section is being reproduced on the next few pages.*

# YEAR BOOK

and

# DIRECTORY

## Balfour and Mud Creek Baptist Churches

1933

REV. C. E. BLYTHE, *Pastor*

Penrose, Route 1, North Carolina

## THE PASTOR'S MESSAGE

The pastor is happy in this opportunity to speak an earnest word to the members of Balfour and Mud Creek Churches. Our relations have been so pleasant that I would be a veritable ingrate were I to fail to avail myself of this opportunity to say a hearty "Thank You," and "God Bless You."

As we review our labors together in the past, we are conscious of many failures. Many mistakes have been made which grieve our hearts sorely: many opportunities for usefulness have been allowed to slip by unimproved: many words of christian cheer and encouragement have perhaps been left unspoken, and our faith and our loyalty have not always been what they might have been. Yet, in spite of our faithlessness, that God whom we serve has made good His irrevocable promise to never leave us nor forsake us. His hand has been upon us for good through all the stressful days through which we have been passing. Perhaps the past two years have tried men's souls as no other like period in this generation. An era of unprecedented prosperity had lifted our standards of living to a peak never before dreamed of. Those things formerly looked upon as extravagant luxuries came to be regarded as the every day necessities of life. During that period the whole world became enamored of things material and things spiritual were largely dismissed from human thought. Most of us came to regard that prosperity as the permanent status. Then came the crash when riches took wings and flew away. Gloom and discouragement displaced hilarity and sanguine hope and men anticipated the future with fear. This fear and discouragement reflected itself in the work of the churches everywhere. Contributions to the work of the church slumped fearfully, leading to crushing debts in every phase of kingdom enterprise. Men not only lost faith in each other but many of them lost faith in God. But, happily, a remnant kept their hold upon the unseen and their loyalty and devotion have kept the wheels of Zion moving. It is to that class in our two congregations that I address this faithful word. Your sacrifices have not been in vain for God is not unfaithful to forget your work of love.

But, what of the future? Shall we face it hopefully and unafraid? The clouds of adversity still hang low and threatening all about us but God's in his heavens and He still holds His hand on the affairs of His kingdom. The prospects for the future are as bright as God's eternal promise. Love and loyalty in christian service have back of them all the power and resources of heaven, and can not go unrewarded.

"And lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world," is the promise of our risen Lord to His faithful in all ages.

Upon that promise, your pastor bases an earnest appeal for the active and prayerful cooperation of every member of the church.



The church is the greatest institution in the whole wide world and is engaged in the noblest enterprise known to earth or heaven. Hence, everyone should consider himself happy in the privilege of giving not only his best but his all to the consummation of that holy enterprise.

Shall we join hands and cooperate together in bringing about that glorious day when "the kingdoms of this world shall become the Kingdom of our Lord and His Christ."

Faithfully yours,

C. E. BLYTHE, Pastor.



BALFOUR CHURCH

# Church Officers

## Balfour Baptist Church

### GENERAL OFFICERS

|                                             |                 |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Pastor.....                                 | C. E. Blythe    |
| Clerk.....                                  | C. S. Justis    |
| Treasurer.....                              | W. E. Hammond   |
| Superintendent Sunday School.....           | W. E. Hammond   |
| Assistant Superintendent Sunday School..... | E. D. Dunlap    |
| Secretary Sunday School.....                | T. O. Balb      |
| Assistant Secretary.....                    | Otha Pruitt     |
| Choir Leader.....                           | Harvey Ervin    |
| Assistant Choir Leader.....                 | C. O. Ward      |
| Pianist.....                                | Anna Bell Rimes |

### DEACONS

W. E. HAMMOND Chairman

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| Joseph Newman  | E. S. Justis  |
| J. C. Hill     | E. D. Dunlap  |
| J. W. Burge    | E. A. Ervin   |
| C. T. Callahan | Charlie Ward  |
| B. H. Rains    | Hampton Tabor |
| E. M. McCarson | T. O. Balb    |

### USHERS

George Robinson and R. P. ...

## Sunday School

Classes in Sunday School, Balfour Baptist Church, are held every first Sunday afternoon and every fourth Sunday morning. The church meeting every Saturday night.

### TEACHERS

|                                 |                   |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Men's Class - No. 1.....        | Mr. T. A. ...     |
| Men's Class - No. 2.....        | Mrs. C. R. ...    |
| Young Men's Class - No. 3.....  | Mrs. C. S. ...    |
| Intermediate Girls - No. 4..... | Mrs. Florence ... |
| Intermediate Boys - No. 5.....  | Mrs. W. L. ...    |
| Junior Girls - No. 6.....       | Miss Jean ...     |
| Junior Boys - No. 7.....        | Mr. E. ...        |
| Primary - No. 8.....            | Mrs. Edna ...     |
| Kindergarten - No. 9.....       | Mrs. J. A. ...    |
| Infants - No. 10.....           |                   |

# BALFOUR CHURCH

## SENIOR B. Y. P. U.

|                              |                   |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| President.....               | Travis Barnwell   |
| Vice President.....          | Myrtle Corn       |
| Secretary and Treasurer..... | Lucy Rodes        |
| Quis Leader.....             | Catherine Jones   |
| Group Captain—No. 1.....     | Dewey Corn        |
| Group Captain—No. 2.....     | Charles Fatner    |
| Pianist.....                 | Iona Bentley      |
| Choister Leader.....         | I. Lula Barnwell  |
| Leader.....                  | Mrs. E. S. Justus |

## JUNIOR B. Y. P. U.

|                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Leader.....              | Mrs. Lusk        |
| Sponsor.....             | Macey Fore       |
| President.....           | Charlotte Justus |
| Vice President.....      | Ruby Bentley     |
| Secretary.....           | Marie Lusk       |
| Treasurer.....           | Ruby Corn        |
| Group Captain—No. 1..... | Louise Lusk      |
| Group Captain—No. 2..... | Ruby Corn        |
| Choir Leader.....        | Venice Bentley   |
| Quis Leader.....         | Olvria Crisp     |

## G. A.

|             |                 |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Leader..... | Mrs. H. C. Lusk |
|-------------|-----------------|

## R. A.

|                     |        |                  |
|---------------------|--------|------------------|
| Leader.....         | N..... | Mrs. Horace Corn |
| President.....      |        | J. E. Bishop     |
| Vice President..... |        | Boyd Bishop      |
| Secretary.....      |        | Arthur Corn      |

## Y. W. A.

|             |                   |
|-------------|-------------------|
| Leader..... | Mrs. W. E. Heaten |
|-------------|-------------------|

## W. M. S.

|                                |                    |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| President.....                 | Mrs. C. R. Staggs  |
| Vice President.....            | Mrs. W. E. Heaten  |
| Secretary.....                 | Mrs. H. C. Lusk    |
| Treasurer.....                 | Mrs. O. E. Bishop  |
| Personal Service Chairman..... | Mrs. C. T. Calahan |
| Mission Study.....             | Mrs. W. M. Maxwell |

## ROSTER OF MEMBERSHIP

P.C. Adams  
 Mrs. P.C. Adams  
 Henry Adams  
 W.D. Anders  
 Jeannette Anderson  
 Frank Babb  
 T.O. Babb  
 Zeb Bell  
 Mrs. Zeb Bell  
 Jennings Bell  
 Clarence Bentley  
 Lenn Brown  
 Mrs. Travis Barnwell  
 Alphas Beck  
 Mrs. O.E. Bishop  
 Flossie Bentley  
 Finley Barnwell  
 J.W. Burge  
 Hoke Bagwell  
 Mrs. Hoke Bagwell  
 Volney Bagwell  
 Rora Blythe  
 Elizabeth Blythe  
 Mrs. Lila Brevard  
 K.D. Breazeale  
 Mrs. K.D. Breazeale  
 Harold Breazeale  
 Vernon Blankinship  
 Mrs. Vernon Blankinship  
 Mrs. Lem Brown  
 J.E. Barnwell  
 Mrs. J.E. Barnwell  
 Uliia Barnwell  
 Mrs. Hattie Brown  
 Adgrer Brown  
 Preston Barnwell  
 Dock Bentley  
 Mrs. Dock Bentley  
 Travis Barnwell  
 Anna Bell Crondey  
 R.P. Craig  
 Mrs. Guy Corn  
 Lewis Condrey  
 Louise Corn  
 Will Corn  
 Mrs. Will Corn  
 John Carner  
 Mrs. John Carber  
 Frances Carner  
 Lewis Case  
 Mrs. Lewis Case  
 Mrs. Etta Cagle  
 Anna Corn  
 Horace Corn

Mrs. Horace Corn  
 Mrs. H.C. Causey  
 C.T. Calahan  
 Mrs. C.T. Calahan  
 Mrs. Alfred Condrey  
 E.C. Cole  
 Mrs. E.C. Cole  
 Bill Corn  
 Mrs. Mary Condrey  
 Mrs. Joe Capps  
 A.C. Condrey  
 E.C. Cox  
 Roy Corn  
 Dewey Corn  
 Authur Corn  
 Mrs. Jennelle Coats  
 Myrtle Corn  
 May Corn  
 Nina Capps  
 L.A. Chapen  
 Joseph Dunlap  
 Mrs. Joseph Dunlap  
 Nora Dunlap  
 William Dill  
 Mrs. T.J. Dill  
 T.J. Dill  
 Mrs. T.J. Dunlap  
 Jeff Dunlap  
 Enoch Dempsey  
 Mrs. Ella Dempsey  
 W.L. Davis  
 Stella Davis  
 Ernest Ervin  
 Larence Ervin  
 George Ervin  
 Arnold Ervin  
 J.W. Ervin  
 Mrs. J.W. Ervin  
 Harvey Ervin  
 Mrs. Ernest Ervin  
 Mrs. Harvey Ervin  
 Mrs. C.L. Ervin  
 Mrs. Henry Flynn  
 J.M. Freeman  
 Mrs. J.M. Freeman  
 Nacey Fore  
 Ellen Flynn  
 J.A. Fore  
 Pauleen Fore  
 Estell Fore  
 Joe Fore  
 Mrs. Robe Gilliard  
 Iasic Green  
 Oma Green

Mrs. C. Gosnel  
 Mrs. Sude Green  
 Gadon Garren  
 Mrs. J.M. Gosnell  
 Fred Gilliam  
 E.A. Goodman  
 J.C. Hill  
 Mrs. J.C. Hill  
 W.E. Hammond  
 Mrs. W.E. Hammon  
 Mrs. W.E. Heaton  
 Bennie Heaton  
 Emma Lou Heaton  
 Mrs. Arthur Hammo  
 Mrs. J.A. Hammond  
 Nellie Henderson  
 Mrs. C.J. Hay  
 Thelma Hammond  
 J.L. Hammett  
 Mrs. J.L. Hammett  
 Leland Henderson  
 Mrs. Bob Hammond  
 Bennie Lee Hammett  
 Mrs. Bennie Heaton  
 Lora Hannah  
 Mrs. Bessie Henderso  
 J.A. Hammond  
 Mrs. Sallie Johnson  
 Fannie Johnson  
 Florence Justus  
 Roy Justus  
 Nannie Johnson  
 Mrs. Jane Johnson  
 Mrs. Annie Jennings  
 E.S. Justus  
 Ruby Justus  
 Isabelle Jones  
 Shelton Kennar  
 Rosa King  
 Dallas King  
 G.G. Kurkendoll  
 Mrs. G.G. Kurkendol  
 J.H. Lanning  
 Mrs. J.H. Lanning  
 Mrs. H.C. Lusk  
 H.C. Lusk  
 Mrs. Gleen Laughter  
 Mrs. Eva Levi  
 Jack Levi  
 Marie Lusk  
 G.W. Moody  
 Mrs. G.W. Moody  
 Beverly Moody  
 Midge Moody



Fred Mason  
 W.T. Merritt  
 W.P. Maxwell  
 Mrs. W.P. Maxwell  
 Eula Maxwell  
 Fate Matthews  
 Mrs. Lura Matthews  
 Bill Matthews  
 Viola Maxwell  
 Floyd Mull  
 Dock McKinney  
 F.M. McCarson  
 Mrs. F.M. McCarson  
 Mrs. Sallie McHam  
 Harry McCarson  
 Lexine McCarson  
 Christine McCarson  
 Mrs. Frank McEntry  
 Mrs. Ester McKinney  
 Lela McKelley  
 Warren McCarson  
 Joseph Newman  
 Mrs. Joseph Newman  
 J.W. Newman  
 Donald Norwood  
 Wilson Norwood  
 Jack Norwood  
 Loyd Newman  
 Ruby Newman

Alean Newman  
 Virginia Noonchester  
 Vanoy Orr  
 Faye Parkinson  
 F.G. Parker  
 Mrs. F.G. Parker  
 Mrs. Sallie Pruitt  
 Ada Parkinson  
 Brownlow Pruitt  
 Mrs. Gladys Pruitt  
 Grady Pruitt  
 Ottho Pruitt  
 Alonzo Pruitt  
 Mrs. Sarah Pruitt  
 B.H. Rains  
 Mrs. B.H. Rains  
 Isabelle Rains  
 Mrs. Garrett Ramsey  
 Odell Rains  
 Myrtle Rains  
 Crettie Rhodes  
 Leota Rhodes  
 W.G. Ramsey  
 Anna Belle Rains  
 Anna Mae Robertson  
 George Robertson  
 Bryte Rhodes  
 Mrs. C.S. Smith  
 Mrs. R.B. Smith

Mrs. J.B. Starns  
 J.L. Stepp  
 Reba Stagg  
 Harold Stansell  
 Mrs. J.B. Stansell  
 Mrs. Willie Thomas  
 Trewlene Tabor  
 H. Tabor  
 Mrs. H. Tabor  
 W.H. Taylor  
 Mrs. W.H. Taylor  
 Robert Tabor  
 Charlie Taylor  
 Volney Tabor  
 J.E. Whitaker  
 Mrs. Sam Whitaker  
 Mrs. J.E. Whitaker  
 Leatha Word  
 Mattie Williams  
 Bob Whitaker  
 W.R. Wyatt  
 Mrs. W.R. Wyatt  
 Arrie Wyatt  
 Charlie Ward  
 Edith Ward  
 Dorothy Whitaker  
 Mary Whitaker

If any ones' name is omitted  
 it is by mistake

### Did You Know...

That our church once had an outside brush arbor used for revival services?

## ASSOCIATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Apparently Balfour Baptist Church was formed and organized under the Southern Baptist influence. The pastors that have served the church have in most part been affiliated throughout the careers with other Southern Baptist churches and work. Records in our Baptist institution, Wake Forest University, also show the Stoney Mountain Church was active in this direction even before our church was organized. (See notes about Stoney Mountain Church)

Because of the Carolina Baptist Association's roll being listed alphabetically, Balfour Baptist was the first church name to appear. Although the Carolina Association had its first meeting in 1877, our church did not participate until years later. After our establishment in 1908, notes are found in the early church minutes of "meeters" being elected by the church to attend services in other churches. The Association is not mentioned, as such, in these places, but the impression is left that the church was participating with it in those early days.

At the first annual session of the Carolina Association, the following churches made up the roll: Double Springs, Mountain Page, Gap Creek, Mountain Hill, Cross Roads, and Oak Grove. We are not sure when our membership came about, but included below is a copy of some 1915 statistics along with a list of messengers, apparently prepared for Associational use. Also included is the copy of the cover sheet plus another page of the 1st session of the Carolina Baptist Association in 1877.

Several members of our church in the past and also at the present have served on committees and in other places of responsibilities of the Association. Our affiliation in this respect is probably at its greatest currently.

### MINUTES

OF THE

### FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

## CAROLINA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

## DOUBLE SPRING CHURCH,

HENDERSON COUNTY, N. C.

OCTOBER 19, 20, 1877.

---

HENDERSONVILLE, N. C.,

PRINTED AT "THE NEW ERA" OFFICE

1878.

The committee on Union Meetings reported :

1st. Dist.—At Gap Creek church, commencing on Friday before the 5th Sabbath in March, 1878. M. E. Smith and E. J. Mullenax to attend.

2nd. Dist.—At Mountain Hill, commencing on Friday before the 5th Sabbath in June, 1878. M. E. Smith and J. W. Middleton to attend.

3rd. Dist.—At Oak Grove, commencing on Friday before the 5th Sabbath in September, 1878. M. E. Smith and A. Heatherly to attend.

Each meeting to continue 3 days.

#### ON FINANCE.

Received from Churches for printing minutes, \$ 6.95  
Received from collection, 5.05

Total amount received, \$12.00

Both these reports were read and adopted.

On motion of Joshua Pruett, the following resolution was unanimously adopted :

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Association are hereby tendered to the brethren and good people in the vicinity of Double Springs church for the hospitable manner in which they have entertained us during the meeting of the Association.

The Association appointed the following correspondents :

*Greenville Association*.—J. J. Davis, M. E. Smith, J. W. Middleton and Joshua Pruett.

*Twelve Mile Association*.—W. B. Johnson, L. B. Johnson, T. E. Waters and M. E. Smith.

The Association having concluded its regular business, adjourned to meet with the Mountain Page church, on Friday before the 3rd Sabbath in October, 1878, at 11 o'clock, A. M. Previous to adjournment, the hymn,

"How I long to be like Jesus," &c.,

was sung, the right hand of fellowship given by each of the members, in token of friendship and union, and the benediction pronounced by the moderator.

M. E. SMITH, Moderator,  
Greenville, S. C.

W. C. WARD, Clerk,  
Hendersonville, N. C.

The stand was occupied on Sabbath by the following brethren :

Elder M. E. Smith preached the first sermon from Prov. ix : 1 ; followed by Elder E. J. Mullenax, from I Kings xviii : 12, as the Missionary sermon, after which a collection was taken up amounting to \$5.05. In the evening Eld. C. M. Phillips officiated.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.—A. Heatherly, M. E. Smith.

LICENTIATES.—W. B. Johnson, J. W. Middleton, John Tankesly.

### STATISTICAL TABLE.

| CHURCHES.       | PASTORS.        | CLERKS.        | POST-OFFICES.         | Meeting Days. | Baptized. | Received by Letter. | Dismissed. | Expended. | Donated. | Total. | Contributions for Minutes. |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------|---------------------|------------|-----------|----------|--------|----------------------------|
| Double Springs, | M. E. Smith,    | W. C. Ward,    | Green River,          | 4 30          | 4 30      | 1                   | 1 00       | 63        | \$2 05   |        |                            |
| Mountain Page,  | James Blythe,   | L. E. Ward,    | Flat Rock             | 1 56          | 1 9       | 3                   | 3 1        | 29        | 1 65     |        |                            |
| Gap Creek,      | M. E. Smith,    | W. B. Johnson, | Middle Saluda, S. C., | 1 30          | 00        | 00                  | 00         | 00        | 100      | 1 75   |                            |
| Mountain Hill,  | B. E. Chastain, | Joshua Pruett, | Highland Grove, "     | 4 5           | 4 1       | 7                   | 00         | 00        | 50       | 1 00   |                            |
| Three Roads,    | W. S. Case,     | Levi Jones,    | Flat Rock,            | 3 00          | 2 00      | 6                   | 00         | 00        | 31       | 00     |                            |
| Oak Grove,      | M. E. Smith,    | T. E. Waters,  | Flat Rock,            | 3 00          | 2 00      | 10                  | 00         | 00        | 37       | 50     |                            |

# STATISTICS

of the Balfore Baptist Church, Sept for 1916

Name of Pastor, W A Mear Post-office Address, Henrichsland

## CHURCH MEMBERSHIP.

Number reported last year, . . . 76

### INCREASE

By Baptism, . . . 12

By Letter, . . . 14

By Experience, . . .       

By Restoration, . . .       

### DECREASE

By Letter, . . . 3

By Exclusion, . . .       

By Erasure, . . .       

By Death, . . .       

Present Membership, . . . 102

Students for the Ministry, . . .       

## SUNDAY-SCHOOL STATISTICS.

Number of Schools, . . . 1

Number of Officers and Teachers, . . . 6

Number of Pupils, . . . 50

Average Attendance, . . . 35

Number Baptized, . . . 6

Volumes in Library, . . .       

Contributions for Missions, . . .       

Total Amount of Money raised, . . . 22.20

Superintendent's Name, J. W. Lunge

P. O. Address, Henrichsland

## CHURCH PROPERTY.

Church Edifices, . . . 1

Chapels, . . .       

Number of Sitzings, . . . 225

Parsonages, . . .       

Total Value of Property, . . . 1500.00

## CONTRIBUTIONS.

Home Church Expenses, . . . 12.00

Sunday-school Expenses, . . . 22.20

Bible Work, . . .       

State Missions, . . .       

Ministerial Education, . . .       

Foreign Missions, . . . 36.15

Publication Society; Colportage and Sunday-school Mission Work, . . .       

Home Missions, . . .       

Miscellaneous, . . .       

For Printing Minutes, . . .       

pastor salary 60.00

poor 8.45

Total, . . . \$138.10

## MESSENGERS.

### ORDAINED MINISTERS.

J W Briggs

### DEACONS.

W B Justice

Joseph K. K. K.

### OTHER MEMBERS.

Lander Justice

John Bishop

### LICENTIATES.

J. W. Briggs

Name of Church Clerk, W B Justice P. O. Address, Henrichsland



## THE CHURCH AND CIVIC ACTIVITIES

Down through the years Balfour Baptist Church has made itself available to the community in times of need and also to fight for what we believe is right, based on the word of God.

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of spiritual wickedness in high places." Eph. 6:12.

With the morals of our nation on the downward trend, we need now more than ever to be an example in our community to help those in need and to fight the devil and his adversaries.

Following are a few examples of our church activities in the community during the past years:

### NEWSPAPER ARTICLE IN TIMES NEWS...MARCH 23, 1974

#### "AN APPEAL FROM BALFOUR BAPTIST CHURCH"

Balfour Baptist Church in its regular monthly conference voted unanimously to place this ad in the paper, affirming our strong heartfelt disapproval of the appearance of the indecent, unchristian nude pictures on the front page of our newspaper, and the incidence of "streaking" in our Baptist Colleges, State Universities, Independent Schools, and Universities, or indecent exposure and all forms of immorality, wherever it may be.

We humbly appeal to the people of this region to join us in observing, April 30, 1974, as a Day of Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer, as proclaimed by our Congress. The Resolution is printed below:

We sincerely feel this is the answer to our drift into gross immorality and spiritual decadence.

We solicit your prayers for us that God will pardon and forgive us at Balfour Baptist Church for our sins and failures as well as others.

Balfour Baptist Church  
5 North (U.S.)  
Balfour, N.C.  
Rev. Condred Pirkle, Pastor

**VOTE NO TO LIQUOR BY THE DRINK**  
**TUESDAY-AUGUST 26TH**

**GOD SAYS,**

*"Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink, that putteth thy  
bottle to him, and makest him drunken." HAB. 2:15*

**We at Balfour Baptist Are OPPOSED to  
Liquor-by-the-drink for your  
good and God's Glory.**

**BALFOUR BAPTIST CHURCH**  
NORTH ASHEVILLE HIGHWAY

Rev. B. Condred Pirkle, Pastor

Pd. Pol. Adv. By Rev. B. Condred Pirkle, Pastor

**BALFOUR SCHOOL**

CORUM SMITH, PRINCIPAL

2529 ASHEVILLE HIGHWAY

HENDERSONVILLE, N. C. 28739

May 23, 1972

Reverend Curtis McCarley  
Pastor Balfour Baptist Church  
Balfour, North Carolina

Dear Sir:

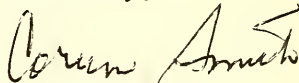
Please convey our deepest appreciation for your efforts on behalf of the Balfour School to your deacons and members of your church.

The tragedy of losing our school three days before the term was to begin, has been greatly diminished by your help. Please forgive us any inconvenience that our presence might have caused.

Thank you again for your kindness and understanding of our problems.

May the Lord bless you richly, as you continue to serve Him.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Corum S. Smith". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Corum S. Smith

bj



# *Faith Christian Day School, Inc.*

HENDERSONVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

Commencement Exercises  
Monday Evening, May 29, 1972  
Eight O'clock

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES for Christian Day School are held annually in our auditorium.

## **Did You Know...**

at the church had a daily radio program over WHVL and weekly over WHKP and WAGI at one time?

## W.M.U. AND SOUTHERN BAPTIST MISSIONS

The W.M.U., Woman's Missionary Union, was founded in 1888. The W.M.U. was organized so that women could work together in their effort to help tell the world about Christ and his saving Grace. Balfour has been a part of this great effort. Early records show that in 1914 the little children took an offering for missions. Their collection amounted to \$3.30 and the church voted to give \$5 a month to help spread the gospel.

April the 1914  
 Sunday morning  
 Scripture Reading by the  
 Pastor June 24  
 The children extradies thing  
 We will trainee as could be  
 It missed for dinner dinner on the  
 ground came to gether by  
 singing some talk from the  
 Brethren E. J. Rhoads J. W. Briggs  
 about mission morning  
 the little children taken a  
 collection for mission they  
 got \$3.30 After Noon a collection  
 was taken for Mrs. Adeline Mary a  
 member of this church collection 2.55  
 the church wanted to raise five dollars  
 a month to send off for mission  
 to help spread the Gospel to some  
 heathen Nation then the money  
 taken of that wood pay each month  
 ideal offering 5-31  
 Adeline till Saturday before  
 the second Sunday in  
 May J. R. Limer Mod  
 W. B. Justice  
 66

Records show the first W.M.U. organization at Balfour began in 1926 with approximately 10 members enrolled. The officers were:

Mrs. C.R. Staggs  
 Mrs. A.H. Stewart  
 Mrs. A.A. Gregory  
 Mrs. Eugene Coker  
 Eula Maxwell  
 Mrs. C.T. Hoy

President  
 Counselor of Y.W.A.  
 Counselor of G.A.  
 Counselor of R.A.  
 Leader of Sunbeam Board  
 Missions Treasurer



Following is a list of known Presidents of W.M.U.

|      |                       |
|------|-----------------------|
| 1924 | Mrs. C.R. Staggs      |
| 1934 | Mrs. W.E. Heaton      |
| 1935 | Mrs. George Burrough  |
| 1938 | Mrs. C.R. Staggs      |
| 1942 | Miss Florence Justice |
| 1943 | Mrs. C.R. Staggs      |
| 1946 | Mrs. J.C. Brown       |
| 1951 | Mrs. George Seigler   |
| 1968 | Miss Edna Corn        |

1938 The W.M.U. put on a missionary program for the benefit of the Baptist Hospital. Eleven dollars and fifty-five cents was raised.

They also gathered 240 washcloths and 54 towels for the Thomasville orphanage in 1967.

Some of their projects have been for the prison camp, local rest homes, shut-ins, and Pardee Hospital. They also organize food for benevolence in the community, gifts for the children at Christmas and the IAM Mission's Project.

The W.M.U. began reporting in the church conferences in 1967.

Balfour now has several missions organizations active in our church.

|                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Mission Friends     | Children ages 3-5    |
| Girls in Action     | Girls in grades 1-6  |
| Acteens             | Girls in grades 7-12 |
| Royal Ambassadors   |                      |
| Crusaders           | Boys in grades 1-6   |
| Pioneers            | Boys in grades 7-12  |
| Baptist Young Women | Women ages 18-29     |
| W.M.U.              | Women ages 30 and up |

Mission Friends, G.A.'s, R.A.'s, and Acteens meet weekly and the B.Y.W. and W.M.U. meet monthly.

Throughout the years Balfour has strongly supported the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering (special offering for Home Missions) and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering (special offering for Foreign Missions). Annie Armstrong and Lottie Moon were dedicated to the cause of mission work. They spent their whole lives as missionaries and these two designated offerings were organized in their memory.

There were spans of time in the quarterly reports that Balfour chose to give to individual missions missionaries.

Below is a copy of one of the monthly mission's budgets.

### BALFOUR BAPTIST CHURCH MONTHLY MISSION BUDGET 1979

#### REIGN MISSION

|                                                 |           |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| INDIA PRAYER FELLOWSHIP - INDIA                 | \$ 100.00 |
| REIGN MISSION BOARD SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION | 100.00    |
| SPEL PROJECTS - EUROPE                          | 50.00     |
| V. LYLE BAYLIS - AFRICA                         | 50.00     |
| V. FRANK CALHOUN - INDONESIA                    | 50.00     |
| V. MIKE SULLIVAN - PHILIPPIANS                  | 50.00     |
| V. WILLIAM CONNOR - ST KITTS, WEST INDIES       | 25.00     |
| V. ARY VELLOSO - BRAZIL                         | 25.00     |
| V. PHILIP BAWDEKAR - INDIA                      | 25.00     |
| ELGAUM YOUTH FOR CHRIST - INDIA                 | 25.00     |
| PROSY MISSION HOSPITAL - INDIA                  | 25.00     |

#### HOME & FOREIGN MISSION

|                                                   |       |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------|
| FUS PIRKLE EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION - MISSISSIPPI | 50.00 |
| V. PAUL RAY - TEXAS & MEXICO                      | 50.00 |

## HOME MISSION

|                                                |     |
|------------------------------------------------|-----|
| REV. MILTON TAYLOR - EVANGELIST                | 50  |
| NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME         | 50  |
| CAROLINA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION                   | 50  |
| BEAR WALLA BAPTIST CAMP                        | 50  |
| REV. BUTCH CABE - NEW YORK                     | 200 |
| HOME MISSION BOARD SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION | 50  |
| CAMP ZION - MYRTLE, MISSISSIPPI                | 50  |
| SAR SHALOM - JEWS                              | 10  |

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & HOME MISSION

|                                                         |                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| REV. DOUG WHITFIELD - FLORIDA                           | 200             |
| FRUITLAND BAPTIST BIBLE INSTITUTE                       | 25              |
| MID-AMERICA BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY - MEMPHIS, TN. | 50              |
| TABERNACLE CHILDREN'S HOME - GREENVILLE, S.C.           | 25              |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                            | <b>\$ 1,435</b> |

Balfour also supported other pastors and missionaries in their efforts to spread the gospel. Some the names listed were:

|                        |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| James Stewart          | Clarence Porter |
| Lyle Bayliss           | Jim Merck       |
| Clyde Billingsley, Jr. | William Connor  |
| Floyd Paschall         | Paul Ray        |
| Ed Greig               | Mr. Jackson     |

In 1975 Balfour Church gave a gift of \$4,300 to send Pastor and Mrs. B. Condred Pirkle to Holy Land.

### **PASTOR AND MRS. B. CONDRED PIRKLE....**

*Gives A Public Salute To The Members Of  
**BALFOUR BAPTIST CHURCH, ASHEVILLE HWY.**  
For Their Liberal, Generous Gifts Amounting  
To \$4,300<sup>00</sup> To Send Us To The Holy Land.  
Such Generosity Bespeaks Of Love And Loyalty  
So Magnifying To Our Lord Jesus—We Love  
You, We Cherish You.  
We Are Comitted To Serve You In Jesus Name.*



Records show that the Pastor and Assistant Pastor were sent to India in 1977 to participate in a two week Evangelistic meeting. Over 900 decisions for Christ were recorded.

Our church now gives to missions through the Cooperative Program. This program is a unity of Southern Baptist Churches in their giving to missions.

Balfour gives 5% of income per year to the Cooperative Program and 3% of income per year to associational missions.

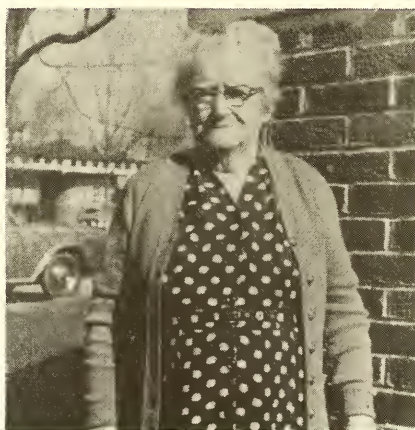
The Cooperative Program supports some of the following mission's projects.

- \* The Foreign Mission Board with more than 3,000 missionaries in more than 95 countries.
- \* The Home Mission Board with more than 2,900 missionaries.
- \* Various seminaries, colleges and universities at home and across the world.
- \* Radio and television programs on 3,696 stations in 7 languages.
- \* Children's homes across the United States and residents of homes for the aged.

Southern Baptist together can reach the world with the gospel of Christ and Balfour Baptist Church is committed to this ministry.



MRS. C.R. STAGGS was our 1st WMU president.



MRS. C.R. STAGGS in her later years.

### Did You Know...

That Rev. W.A. Morris was the only pastor to serve our church at two separate intervals?

## LOCAL MISSIONS

Above and beyond the organized conventional missions previously discussed, the church always had some type of local outreach. These endeavors varied in number, direction, and intensity as the years rolled on.

In the early 1900's, offerings in the three to five dollar category were received for the aid and support of an orphanage that was located in the community at the time. Individuals and families experiencing extreme hardships have received help across the years from the church also.

Some other rather insignificant efforts, such as cottage prayer services held weekly in the home, proved a great blessing to many. The Extension Department, ministering to the elderly and incapacitated shut-ins, was active for a long period of time in the 60's. Several of the deacons participated in Sunday afternoon services in the camps of the migrant workers in the county. Although no visible results were evident in these services, the Bible teaches that our labors of love will not go unnoticed by the Lord. The church for many years helped to support the "Rock of Ages" program on our local W.H.K.P. radio station. Rev. W.C. Huntley started the program in 1948 and it is still being broadcasted at the present time. Sunday morning services were broadcasted for a while from the church in the 70's.

The church reaching out by means of visitation has always been a variable at Balfour. For short periods of time, especially in the last twenty years, it appeared that visitation was "well on its way", only to have it drop almost entirely after just a few weeks of action. Different approaches such as organizing visitation teams, operating from a visitation bulletin board, as well as working through individual Sunday School classes have all been tried. Favorable results have been achieved through all these efforts, but only in part because of lack of interest and perseverance of those involved.

The Bus Ministry, which started on June 4, 1972 with 3 buses, was the largest concentrated movement to share our church with the community that we ever experienced. At one time, a fleet of buses were used to penetrate every sector of our county, logging hundreds of miles each Sunday in an attempt to bring people under the taught and preached Word. Buses traveled as far as Chimney Rock, Edneyville, Boylston, Mills River, and Fletcher. In eight months the church had acquired 10 buses and had employed a full-time Bus Minister, Earl Lawson. Within this same period of time there had been 90 professions of faith and 72 united with the church.

All day Saturday was spent by many of the "bus captains" and workers visiting the homes where they anticipated picking up riders the next morning. Many high moments were experienced by the workers, as well as many disappointments. The entire church program was re-arranged to carry out this ministry. Sunday School classes and teachers had to specially prepare for the large number of children brought in. Children's Worship Service was also started to minister to over 100 children at their level. Spiritual fatigue, along with high operating costs and expensive maintenance on the buses, slowed this operation down finally to a stop.

Probably one of the most valuable contributions to this world Balfour Baptist Church has made are the men of God she has licensed, ordained, and sent out from our fellowship to serve the Lord under His leadership. We have attempted to list their names below:

### PREACHERS ORDAINED BY BALFOUR BAPTIST CHURCH (27)

|                            |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Rev. C.E. Pruitt           | April 12, 1914     |
| Rev. A.G. Sargent          | June 15, 1927      |
| Rev. Eugene Coker          | February 10, 1929  |
| Rev. Lawrence A. Erwin     | February 21, 1937  |
| Rev. L.K. (Chick) Holbert  | July 29, 1940      |
| Rev. Carl Taylor           | July 12, 1941      |
| Rev. Virgil Jones          | December 9, 1945   |
| Rev. Woodrow Maxwell       | June 7, 1951       |
| Rev. Lacy Wilson           | June 7, 1951       |
| Rev. Robert (Bob) Smith    | April 17, 1952     |
| Rev. Clyde Fetner          | September 31, 1952 |
| Rev. Floyd Paschall        | September 31, 1952 |
| Rev. Howard Cabe           | September 31, 1952 |
| Rev. J.L. (Buddy) Mullinax | April 4, 1953      |



|                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Rev. Clyde Gasperson | February 16, 1958 |
| Rev. Wade Laughter   | September 1961    |
| Rev. Raymond Brown   | December 11, 1966 |
| Rev. Rudy Smith      | October 18, 1970  |
| Rev. Clarence Porter | July 24, 1971     |
| Rev. Mike Barlowe    | June 4, 1972      |
| Rev. Don Davis       | October 8, 1972   |
| Rev. Jim Cobb        | February 10, 1974 |
| Rev. David Gasperson | October 6, 1974   |
| Rev. Samuel Mabry    | November 16, 1974 |
| Rev. Douglas Davis   | December 1, 1974  |
| Rev. Butch Cabe      | April 2, 1978     |
| Rev. Larry Henderson | December 9, 1979  |

#### **PREACHERS LICENSED (BUT NOT ORDAINED) (10)**

|                          |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Rev. Gather Briggs       | January 15, 1916   |
| Rev. Donald Norwood      | August 1939        |
| Rev. Paul Shipman        | February 5, 1950   |
| Rev. Jimmy Burge         | November 25, 1951  |
| Rev. Carroll Taylor      | February 16, 1958  |
| Rev. Van McCarley        | September 10, 1969 |
| Rev. Butch Skerrett      | April 28, 1971     |
| Rev. Thomas (Tom) Watson | November 21, 1971  |
| Rev. Jim Theriac         | 1972               |
| Rev. Bobby Hardin        | December 16, 1981  |

#### **PREACHERS WHO HAVE BEEN MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH WHO ATTENDED FRUITLAND & OTHERS NOT LISTED ELSEWHERE (28)**

|                           |                                             |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Rev. James Alridge        | Rev. Larry Appleby                          |
| Rev. Kenneth Bouldin      | Rev. Jimmy Cash                             |
| Rev. Michael Dukes        | Rev. Jimmy Eldreth                          |
| Rev. Toy Davis            | Rev. Ilde Guilaran                          |
| Rev. Tom Hitchcock        | Rev. Ted Huntley                            |
| Rev. C.D. Johnson         | Rev. Earl Lawson                            |
| Rev. Sidney McLeod        | Rev. Jim Merck                              |
| Rev. Bo Moore             | Rev. Dean Neely                             |
| Rev. Jesse Owensby        | Rev. Joe Pitre                              |
| Rev. Erskine V. Plemmons  | Rev. R.H. Pruett                            |
| Rev. Jimmy Riddlehoover   | Rev. Richard Sawyer                         |
| Rev. Dwight Taylor        | Rev. Charles Thrower                        |
| Rev. Doug Whitfield       | Rev. Gene Williams                          |
| Rev. Robert (Sonny) Worth | Rev. Henry Vegter                           |
|                           | Steve Underwood ordained for Youth Ministry |

The cement that held all the above endeavors together has been the Holy Spirit being allowed to live and witness through the lives of the individual members daily - in their homes, on the jobs, on the streets, or wherever they might be. Without personal godliness in a secular world, the church has no hope of winning it's lost community.

**PICTURES OF SOME SHUT-INS SERVED  
BY THE CHURCH IN THE 60'S**



**MRS. ADA STEWART**



**MRS. TABITHA STEWART**



**MR. GRANT PHILLIPS**



**MR. JIM CHAPMAN**

**Did You Know...**

That over \$10,000 offering was received on a single Sunday after the church burned? This happened on April 28, 1968.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School, in the memory of most church members, has been and still is one of the most important parts of church life. Probably more people have become introduced to our church through Sunday School classes than by any other means.

Sunday School is unique in that it has its own membership apart from the regular church roll. It was instituted, from all indication, to be the main arm of outreach for the purpose of attracting the unchurched and even the lost people. The classes are usually relatively small which allows the visitor some attention yet without producing embarrassment.

According to the information found about Sunday School in our church records, and from the evidence found by looking at various pictures located elsewhere in this book, one must conclude that this organization of the church has done well. In the old church it was not unusual to find three adult classes meeting each Sunday morning in the main auditorium separated only by curtains. One mens class met for a while in the church bus while some of the youth met in the basement of the parsonage located next to the church property. Even with these crowded conditions, growth still continued.

Various structures of Sunday School have been tried through the years. In the old church and in the earlier years of the present building the adult department was made up of ladies, mens, and mixed classes with no references to age. Later Rev. McCarley led the church into eliminating the mixed classes leaving only ladies and men separately and each graded by age at ten year intervals. At the present the church has the three part combination.

Ages and names for the childrens departments and classes have varied also across the years. Some of the deviation might have been caused by the type of literature being used. Sometimes the church ordered Southern Baptist literature while at other times it came from an independent source. The adult classes at the present use several modes of Bible study.

For a better look at the present Sunday School structure, study the pictures in "The Church Today" section in this book. Some of the Sunday School Superintendents that have served in this church are listed below:

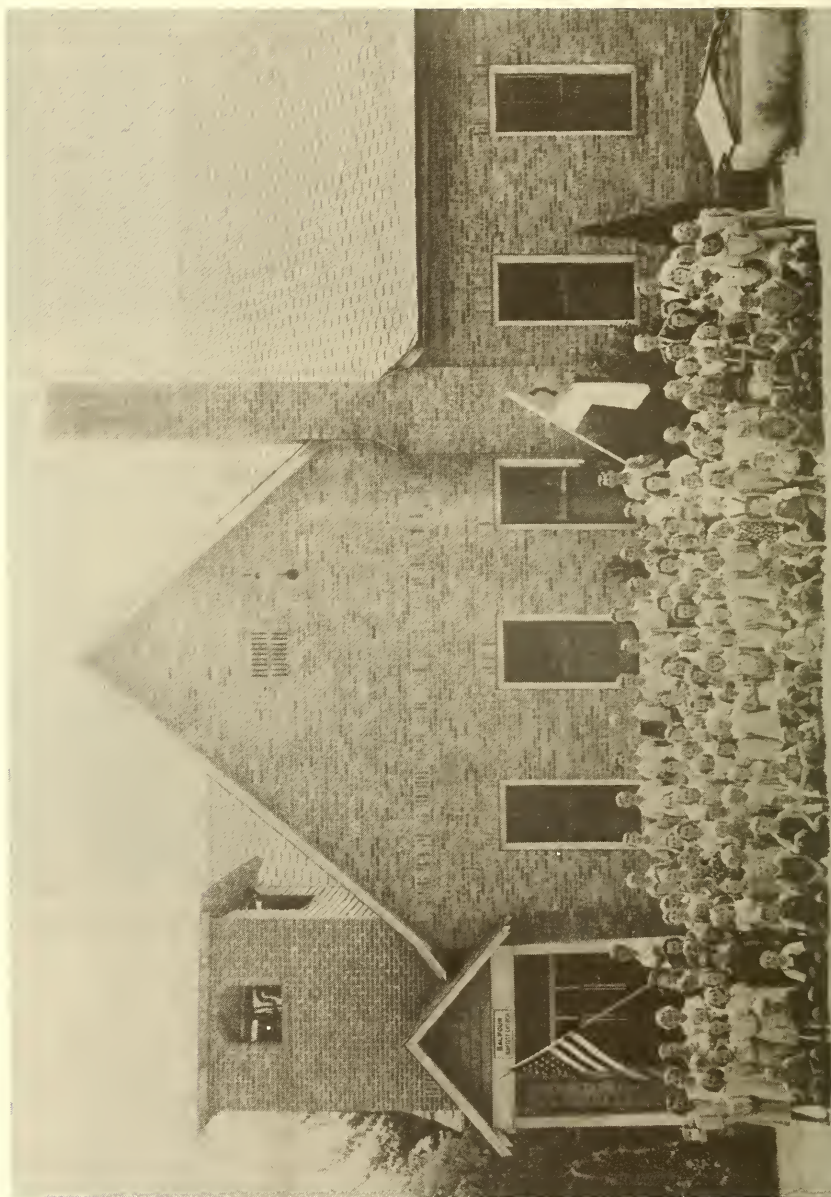
|      |                  |      |                   |
|------|------------------|------|-------------------|
| 1915 | J.W. Burge       | 1947 | J.W. Riddlehoover |
| 1923 | G.H. Blankenship | 1951 | Raleigh Maxwell   |
| 1924 | J.C. Hill        | 1952 | E.D. Dunlap       |
| 1925 | E. Coker         | 1963 | Emerson Searcy    |
| 1926 | A.A. Gregory     | 1966 | Harold Pruitt     |
| 1929 | Harvey Erwin     | 1972 | Robert Lee Hill   |
| 1930 | W.E. Hammond     | 1975 | Douglas Davis     |
| 1943 | W.J. Mills       | 1978 | Donnie Stepp      |
|      |                  | 1981 | Alexander Capps   |

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The first record that we have on Vacation Bible School was in 1941. The enrollment for some of the years are shown below.

|      |     |      |     |      |     |
|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|
| 1941 | 162 | 1957 | 141 | 1970 | 165 |
| 1944 | 99  | 1959 | 178 | 1971 | 220 |
| 1946 | 62  | 1960 | 141 | 1972 | 285 |
| 1950 | 186 | 1961 | 169 | 1973 | 361 |
| 1951 | 158 | 1962 | 171 | 1975 | 316 |
| 1952 | 152 | 1963 | 140 | 1976 | 430 |
| 1953 | 205 | 1964 | 155 | 1977 | 330 |
| 1954 | 195 | 1965 | 155 | 1980 | 98  |
| 1955 | 205 | 1966 | 121 | 1981 | 99  |
| 1956 | 166 | 1967 | 201 | 1982 | 158 |
|      |     |      |     | 1983 | 199 |

These figures along with a few pictures tell us that Balfour has been a strong supporter of Vacation Bible School.





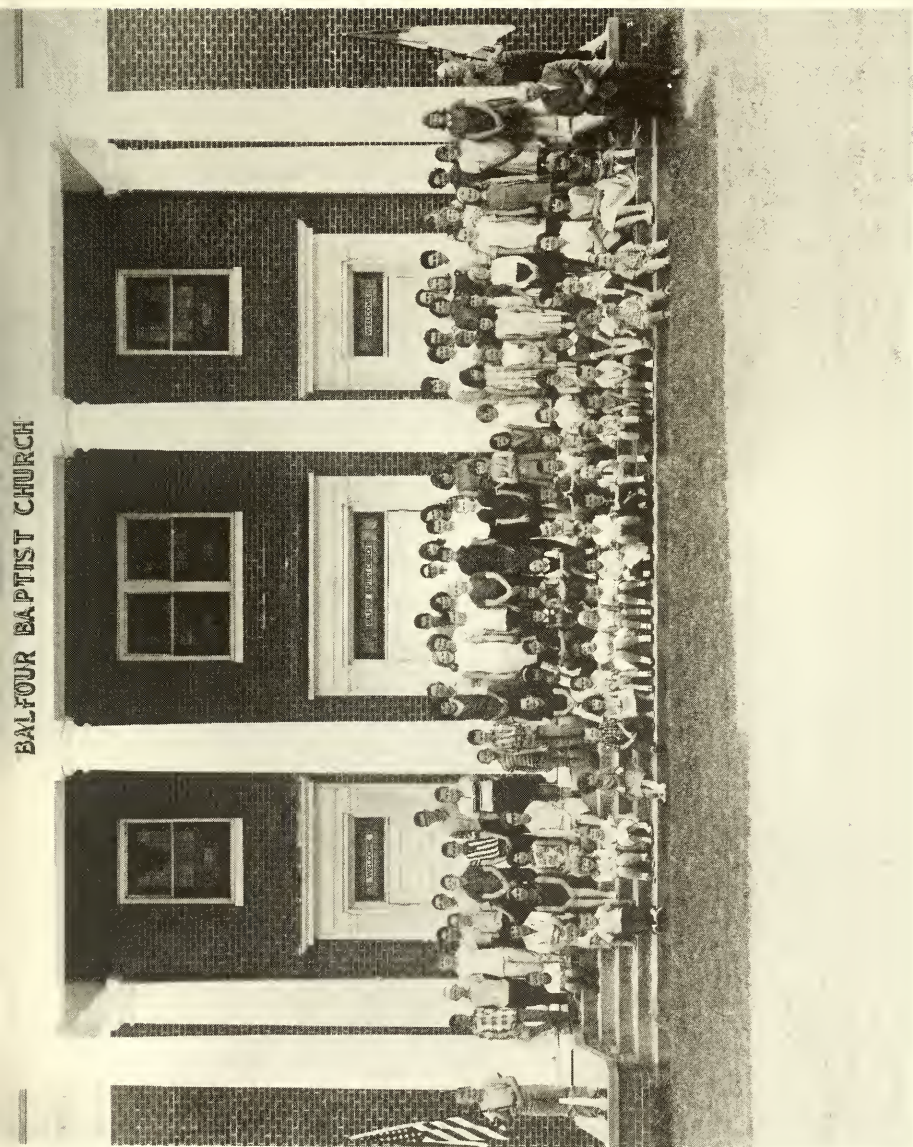


BALFOUR BAPTIST CHURCH





BALFOUR BAPTIST CHURCH



## CHURCH TRAINING

Church training in the former days of our church known as B.T.U. and also Training Union somewhat terminated and changed forms at Balfour in 1974. The old style of training helped make unqualified members to prepare themselves for responsibilities in other phases of church work especially where addressing a group was necessary. Apparently training in the public school system along with experiences on the job and other places of activity in the community eliminated the need we once had for the old style training. The training our church provides at the present is more erratic and more specialized to meet certain peoples needs for certain places of responsibilities for a given time. This plan has proven very successful to the on-going of the church.

For the interest of those that remember B.T.U. and Training Union, the below information is listed:

| Year | Enrollment | Director        |
|------|------------|-----------------|
| 1938 | 20         |                 |
| 1939 | 40         | Helen Hammond   |
| 1940 | 22         |                 |
| 1941 | 33         |                 |
| 1942 | 80         | Crettie Rhodes  |
| 1943 | 72         |                 |
| 1944 | 51         | Virgil Jones    |
| 1945 | 61         |                 |
| 1946 | 52         |                 |
| 1947 | 88         |                 |
| 1948 | 52         |                 |
| 1950 | 54         | Carl Hammond    |
| 1951 | 56         | Edna Corn       |
| 1952 | 80         |                 |
| 1954 | 93         |                 |
| 1955 | 73         |                 |
| 1956 | 67         |                 |
| 1957 | 79         |                 |
| 1959 | 88         |                 |
| 1960 | 52         |                 |
| 1961 | 89         |                 |
| 1962 | 91         |                 |
| 1963 | 72         |                 |
| 1964 | 55         |                 |
| 1965 | 49         | Mrs. David Lusk |
| 1966 | 62         |                 |
| 1967 | 76         | D.E. Whitley    |
| 1968 | 94         | Emerson Searcy  |
| 1969 | 104        | Robert Lee Hill |
| 1970 | 104        |                 |
| 1971 | 140        | Derek Henderson |
| 1972 | 139        |                 |
| 1973 | 181        | Thomas Watson   |
| 1974 | 212        | Harold Pruitt   |

The above information taken from the Carolina Association minutes.



## MUSIC MINISTRY

Music has always played an important part in the ministry of Balfour Baptist Church. The choir, musicians, choir leaders, and music directors are mentioned throughout the minutes. Mrs. Eye, who is saved after the church was constituted, but was in attendance of the church with her parents from the beginning, states "The singing was great in the church."

The first elected organist listed as "Sister Crawford" was in 1908, and the first mention of a choir leader and pianist was the year 1926. Time after time, it was recorded in the minutes that the choir singing was very good. The musicians who played the piano and organ were often accompanied by banjos, guitars, accordian, steel guitars, trumpets, and even a bass fiddle.

The church will always be grateful and thankful for the faithfulness of men and women who served over the years. Each one deserves special recognition for their service, but one was especially outstanding. In June, 1967, a plaque was presented to the choir leader, Brother Harvey Erwin which reads:

*Harvey Erwin: We the members of Balfour Baptist Church express our love and appreciation for years of loyal and devoted service to the church as teacher, chorister, superintendent, and organist. To serve with loyalty is to serve with honor.*



**PLAQUE PRESENTED to Harvey Erwin for 37 years of service.**

Many others served, perhaps not as long, but with equal loyalty and faithfulness. Listed among the choir leaders were W.P. Maxwell, E.E. Matthews, Harvey Erwin, C.L. Matthews, Fate Matthews, Carroll Taylor, Arnold Erwin, Doug Whitfield, and the present music director, Brad Searcy.

The pianists who served were Viola Maxwell, E.A. Erwin, Reba Staggs, Veda Erwin, Francis Hill, Joan Barnett, Pat Green, Ray Corn, Melba Dunlap, and the present pianist, Barbara Capps. The organists who served were Sister Crawford, Mrs. Eugene Coker, E.A. Erwin, Anna Belle Jones, Veda Erwin, Christine Henderson, Linda Johnson, Bill Conner, and the present organist Laura Ward.



A VIEW of the choir led by Doug Whitfield.

## GIFTS AND MEMORIALS

Over the years, Balfour Baptist Church has been blessed with many generous souls who have given freely to the church. It would be impossible to name each and every gift presented, as no definite records were kept concerning this particular matter. According to memory and scattered mention in church minutes, however, a very small portion of the gifts are listed below:

- Organ by Mrs. Little
- Offering plates in memory of Mr. Hammond by Berkeley Mills
- Church sign in memory of Danny Bailey and service boys
- Piano in memory of Mrs. Lloyd Fletcher
- Dogwood tree in honor of Cora Justus
- Furnished room in Extended Care Unit of Pardee Hospital in memory of Curtis McCarley by Balfour Church (\$2,500.)
- Stained glass windows (labeled as follows)
  - Edgar S. Justus and daughter, Blanche Justus Dunlap
  - G.R. and Hazel Green Keith
  - Furman and Agnes Fender McCarson
  - William and Ella Huntley Maxwell (1873-1948)
  - Horace and Fannie McCarson Corn Family
  - William and Vannie Melton Screven
  - Joseph and Malvina Station Newman
  - Servicemen
  - In memory of Webster and Jessie Lawrence Erwin (1871-1949 & 1881-1954)
  - Ephraim and Lura Shults Matthews and Family
  - In memory of George G. Robertson (11/20/1906-2/24/1954)

Whether mentioned here specifically or not, each and every gift has been deeply appreciated and thankfully accepted by the church membership. God has often provided for our extra needs through people with loving hearts.

## REVIVAL

Our hearts have been blessed and revived during many revival meetings held at Balfour Baptist church. Since the church's beginning revival meetings have played a large part in the lives of Balfour's members.

The Lord is so good to us in so many ways. This is evident in the pages of our church minutes. Through prayer, seeking God's will, and the commitment of Christians has God been able to move in many wonderful ways.

Most of the revivals lasted at least two weeks. Some revival services also had prayer meetings held in the afternoon.

In 1933 there was a morning and night service. The Holy Spirit moved among the people with six saved.

During May 1949, the revival meeting began May 1 and ended May 21. There were fifty-nine professions and many were drawn closer to God.

Balfour's desire for revival is found in the minutes of the meeting held in March 1954. The services were preceded with nine weeks of prayer meetings held every night at the church. With answered prayer there were forty professions. Hearts rejoiced and the congregation continued their prayer service for twenty-one weeks!

If only we will seek God and walk daily with him can we have the sweet spirit of revival.

Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people  
may rejoice in thee? Psalm 85:6

The first Brush Arbor Camp meeting was held in July 1975. The Brush Arbor was constructed on the southside of the church and our revival meetings continued there for several years. Many great pastors have held the Revival Meetings at Balfour. Below is the newspaper advertisements for some of the revival meetings.

## Great Soul Stirring Bible Messages

BY

*YOUTH EVANGELIST*

*LARRY ROBBINS*

Outstanding  
Singing  
By  
Youth  
Choir



*Evangelist Larry Robbins*

7:30  
NIGHTLY

NURSERY  
Will Be  
Provided

# Bicentennial Brush Arbor Camp Meeting



JULY 5 - 11, BRO. CARL LACKEY

JULY 11 - 17, DR. PERCY RAY

Isn't it suitable and becoming that we call this area to join us at the altar of God, to praise, and honor, and worship God, who alone is responsible for the freedom, liberty, the prosperity, and spiritual blessings we have enjoyed as a Nation for 200 years.



**Come and Hear**  
One of America's  
Most Effective and Powerful  
Speakers

**Dr. Bill Chapman**

Former Pastor of Anita Bryant at the  
Northwest Baptist Church, Miami, Fla.

**Committed To A  
Heaven Sent Revival  
September 3-8**

**7:30 P.M. NIGHTLY  
NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED**

**Balfour Baptist Church**

**Rev. Condred Pirkle, Pastor  
Asheville Highway — Hendersonville**



# REVIVAL

February 27th-March 5th

*Come!*

*Hear!*



7:00

*Nightly*

Nursery

Will Be

Provided

EVANGELIST WALTER BURRELL

*Preach Jesus*



WALTER BURRELL, N.C. — PREACHED FIRST SERMON AT AGE 14  
— JOINED FIRST CHURCH AT AGE 18 — IN OVER 24 YEARS OF  
MINISTRY HE HAS PASTORED CHURCHES IN GEORGIA, MISSISS-  
IPPI, & TENNESSEE, BUT THE GREATER PART OF HIS MINISTRY  
HAS BEEN AS A FULL-TIME EVANGELIST, AND HAS CARRIED HIM TO  
EVERY CORNER OF THE UNION AND SEVERAL FOR-  
EIGN COUNTRIES. HE IS ALSO AN AUTHOR. HE ATTENDED BCS  
THEOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY & GRADUATED FROM MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE.  
HE IS MARRIED TO THE FORMER PATRICIA WEBB AND THEY HAVE  
4 CHILDREN.

## BALFOUR BAPTIST CHURCH

ASHEVILLE HIGHWAY - BALFOUR, N. C.

REV. CURTIS V. McCARLEY, Pastor

# **ANNUAL CAMP MEETING BALFOUR BAPTIST CHURCH**

**2501 ASHEVILLE HWY. HENDERSONVILLE**



**DR. PERCY RAY  
EVANGELIST**

**COME & HEAR ONE OF AMERICA  
GREATEST & MOST POWERFUL  
PREACHERS**

**DR. PERCY RAY FROM  
MYRTLE, MISSISSIPPI**



**REV.**

**DOUG WHITFIELD  
SINGLING  
LED BY REV.  
DOUG WHITFIELD**

**JULY 9th - JULY 14th  
7:30 P.M. NIGHTLY**

**NURSERY WILL  
BE PROVIDED  
SPECIAL SINGING!**

**THIS MEETING IS SPONSORED BY BALFOUR  
BAPTIST CHURCH. PASTOR B. CONDRED  
PIRKLE AND TUXEDO BAPTIST CHURCH.  
PASTOR HAROLD McKINNISH.**

**BALFOUR  
BAPTIST CHURCH**

**2501 ASHEVILLE HWY. '1978' HENDERSONVILLE**

# CHURCH STATISTICS

## SOME AVAILABLE INFORMATION GLEANED FROM OUR CAROLINA BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONAL MINUTES

| Year | Total Receipts | Baptised | Total<br>Church Members |
|------|----------------|----------|-------------------------|
| 1915 |                | 6        | 102                     |
| 1916 |                |          | 94                      |
| 1918 |                |          | 88                      |
| 1920 |                |          | 79                      |
| 1922 |                |          | 74                      |
| 1924 |                | 9        | 77                      |
| 1926 |                | 6        | 124                     |
| 1929 |                | 51       | 206                     |
| 1930 |                | 15       | 221                     |
| 1932 |                | 20       | 273                     |
| 1934 |                | 56       | 343                     |
| 1939 |                | 29       | 477                     |
| 1942 |                | 6        | 355                     |
| 1944 |                | 9        | 392                     |
| 1946 |                | 10       | 386                     |
| 1950 | 8,666.00       | 51       | 461                     |
| 1952 | 13,096.00      | 16       | 335                     |
| 1955 | 27,889.00      | 6        | 513                     |
| 1956 | 27,305.00      |          | 496                     |
| 1957 | 27,824.00      | 26       | 518                     |
| 1959 | 22,627.00      | 24       | 510                     |
| 1960 | 26,540.00      | 3        | 499                     |
| 1961 | 27,641.00      | 24       | 527                     |
| 1962 | 29,805.00      |          | 526                     |
| 1963 | 30,968.00      | 17       | 514                     |
| 1964 | 26,744.00      | 2        | 509                     |
| 1967 | 43,515.00      | 37       | 548                     |
| 1968 | 105,150.00     | 24       | 569                     |
| 1969 | 64,780.00      | 31       | 615                     |
| 1970 | 65,000.00      | 22       | 629                     |
| 1971 | 82,949.00      | 20       | 654                     |
| 1972 | 68,336.00      | 27       | 686                     |
| 1973 | 118,009.00     | 16       | 713                     |
| 1974 | 104,818.00     | 83       | 777                     |
| 1975 | 114,699.00     | 57       | 801                     |
| 1976 | 116,246.00     | 23       | 737                     |
| 1977 | 112,071.00     | 11       | 639                     |
| 1978 | 102,859.00     | 15       | 621                     |
| 1979 | 101,887.00     | 14       | 598                     |
| 1980 | 98,139.00      | 13       | 555                     |
| 1981 | 83,306.00      | 3        | 538                     |
| 1982 | 85,096.00      | 9        | 541                     |
| 1983 | 102,961.00     | 13       | 208                     |

## BALFOUR CHURCH AT BALFOUR

*The below article was taken from the French Broad Hustler on February 6, 1908.*

The members of the Baptist church at Balfour are making strong efforts to complete their building. The roof is almost finished and the windows are yet to be put in.

They would be glad to receive some aid in their efforts to finish the pretty little church. Every cent is paid for, so far, and with even a little assistance from their friends they will soon be able to finish the new edifice.

The congregation is small and they have made many sacrifices to get the building to its present state.

Any contribution, no matter how small, will be thankfully and gladly received, and those interested are urged to communicate at once with either E.J. Rhodes or J.E. Allen, Balfour.

Remember, no matter how small, your contribution will be thankfully received.



THE BALFOUR Trio in the early 50's.  
Left to Right: Faith Searcy, Jewel Corn,  
Veda Erwin.



XANDER CAPPS and Bobby Merrill participating as Wise Men in the 1982 Christmas Program.



REV. RICK and Jackie Clark greeting the congregation after service.



A GROUP fellowshiping in the basement of the church.



# NOW and THEN



VIEW of the choir section after the fire.



ANOTHER VIEW of the old Church.



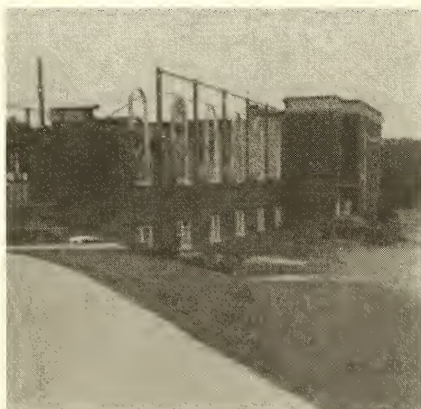
UNT CORA Justus and Faith Searcy in  
e church parking lot.



PRATT HALL was named in honor of  
former Pastor R.N. Pratt at Anderson  
College, Anderson, S.C.



EV. W.C. Huntley and Mrs. Agnes Mc-  
Carson at Mt. View Baptist Church.



SOUTHSIDE VIEW of the church being  
reconstructed after the fire.



**OUR YOUTH** group at Camp Caswell in July 1985.



**THE KINDERGARTEN** group in 1973.



**XANDER AND Barbara Capps** preparing refreshments for the Youth at camp.



**LORENE FLETCHER and Edna Whitley** enjoying some moments of fellowship.



**HAVING SNACKS** in the Woodson Henderson home after service.



**JUANITA AND Laura Bailey** enjoying each other at Camp Caswell.





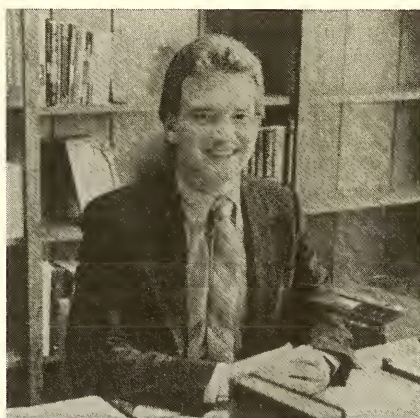
**REV. W.C. Huntley** conducting a cottage prayer service. **Christine Henderson** played the accordion.



**"MISS OLLIE" McCarley** and some children in the nursery.



**THE CHOIR** warming up before service.



**STEVE UNDERWOOD**, former Youth Director.



**RAY CORN** and **Martha Cannon** were married in the basement of the church.



**REV. AND MRS. Clyde Gasperson.**

# NOW and THEN



**SONNY AND BARBARA** Worth - Sonny was a student at Fruitland.



**JIM AND ELLEN** Cobb - Jim was member of the church while attending Fruitland Baptist Institute.



**TERRY BONNETT** and Cliff Searcy at the Valentine Banquet in 1972.



**LEE AND ANNE** Hill at a church banquet.



**BOBBY AND KAY** Merrill chaperoning a youth Valentine Banquet in 1972.



**PAULA LITTLE** (Youth Leader). Gra Little (Youth Director).





**JUNIOR GIRLS** Sunday School Class in 1942.



**A GROUP OF** Intermediate boys with "Miss Eula" Lyda and Bill Schultz.



**HAROLD PRUITT** and Sam Huntley participating in a little contest as Jack Taylor, Sidney Pruitt, Harry Newman, Jerry Souther, Norman Pruitt, and some children look on.



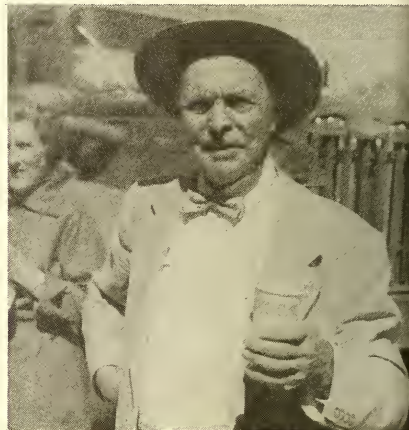
BRAD AND CLIFF Searcy receive perfect attendance recognition from Sunday School Supt. Raleigh Maxwell in 1961. Grandmothers Moenia Sproles and Geneva Searcy take part. "Uncle Ferm McCarson" is seated on front row on left.



THE MUSICAL "Down by the Creekbank" being done by Lynn Searcy, Valerie and Miriam Capps, Melissa Barwell, Laura Bailey, and Kelly Watkins.



THE RHODES sisters in front of their home in Balfour.



REV. CARL Blythe visiting with us on ground-breaking day for the new church. Beverly Corn is in the background.

Balfor Baptist church met Dec 5, 1920  
 Surmoud by the pastor Isaiah 34 ch 10 verse  
 taken collection for orphanges \$34.19  
 Free will offering the pastor \$6.53  
 Miss miss to meet again Saturday  
 before the First Sunday in Jan. 1921  
 S. F. Huntley M. D.,  
 W. B. Justice L. C.,



EATED - Left to Right: Joyce Barnwell, Alice Duncan, Faye Henderson. Standing: Sue Davis, Hazel Brown, Earl Barnett, Mrs. Marie Huntley, Margaret Dill, Dixie Taylor.

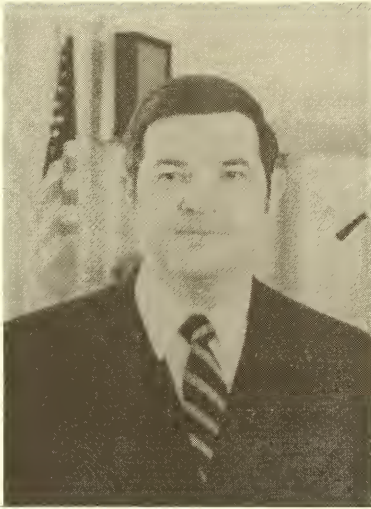


THIS MONUMENT erected in 1909 honoring Capt. Thomas Howard in the Battle of Round Mountain was built by former pastor, Rev. J.B. Arledge according to information received by his descendants. The monument is located on the left of I-26 near the S.C. line.

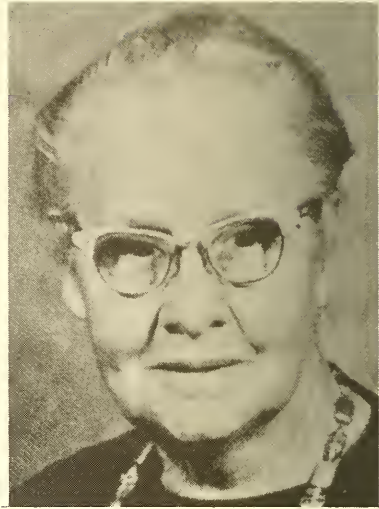
EMERSON SEARCY presenting Rev. and Mrs. Ralph Banning a gift from the church in March 1980 after Rev. Banning had served for about six months as interim pastor.







**REV. DOUG Whitfield** served as Associate Pastor under Rev. Condred Pirkle. He is now the Pastor of Tuxedo 1st Baptist Church.



**MRS. AGNES McCarson** in her later years.



**A FAMILIAR** sight in our fellowship hall.



**DEBT FREE Note Burning**, left to right Donnie Stepp, Harry Newman, R. Pinkerton, and Rev. Dewey Thomas (pastor) May 20, 1984.



**REV. AND MRS. Curtis McCarley** and son, Van.





**MR. AND MRS. Walter Newman.**



**A PICTURE of the church before the fire. The neon sign on the front was blamed with starting the fire during an electrical storm.**

# Berkeley History

by Jerald Wright

Several questions have been asked about how Balfour got its name.

The name Balfour came from the family who established the rock quarry in the community. Captain William Balfour Troy established the quarry in 1889, and produced stones for the railroad. The community chose the name Balfour in his honor.

Captain Smythe, founder of Berkeley Mills, wanted to change the name of the post office to Smythe, but his request was turned down by the federal post office officials. Captain Smythe did however succeed in having the railroad station named Smythe Station. Even though the station is gone, the siding remains and still goes by the name of Smythe. Material delivered to Berkeley Mills is sent to the Smythe siding.

In the next issue of the Bulletin we will discuss where the name Berkeley originated.



*Ruby Pruitt, Postmaster, is standing outside the Balfour Post Office. Capt. Smythe sought to change the name to Smythe, N.C.*

THE TRYON DAILY BULLETIN PAYS TRIBUTE  
TO REV. J.B. ARLEDGE ON HIS 67TH BIRTHDAY

Entered as second-class mail matter August 20, at the Post Office at Tryon, N. C.  
under the Act of Congress, March 3, 1879.

1c The Tryon Daily Bulletin 1c

Vol. 3. TRYON, N. C., MONDAY, MAY 19, 1930. No. 94

## Kiwanis District Governor Speaks Here Tomorrow

Prof. Allison W. Honeycutt, superintendent of Hendersonville schools and governor of North Carolina South Carolina's Kiwanis district, will be the chief speaker Tuesday at Mimosa Inn. Chas. J. Lynch is the current event speaker. James S. Massenburg is in charge of the program. Songs, music, et cetera.

## Rev. J. B. Arledge, 67

All the big papers record the birthdays of John D. Rockefeller and Edison, but to hundreds of people in Polk county more important is the 67th birthday of Rev. J. B. Arledge celebrated yesterday at his home in Valhalla. Present beside Mr. and Mrs. Arledge were 11 children and 29 grandchildren, the in-laws and a few friends. Mr. Arledge was born in Polk county and has been a minister for the past 20 years. He is now serving Friendship and Silver Creek Baptist churches. He and all his children except one live in Polk county. The children are W. B., of Taylorsville, J. S., the SPU Co. lineman, H. L., the rug maker, F. D., the orchardist, and daughters, Mrs. L. E. Minnie Hipp, Mrs. B. B. Leila Bishop, Mrs. W. T. Alice Green, Mrs. Grady Hela Wyatt, Mrs. Tom Bernice Hines. An enjoyable day was spent. Dinner served on the lawn.

## Rutherford Bankers Face Trial

News dispatch from Rutherfordton states that the grand jury had returned true bills against seven citizens for alleged violation of the State banking laws. They are: J. L. Taylor, former resident Rutherford County Bank & Trust Co., W. B. Walker, cashier, T. I. Oates, cashier of the Commercial, K. S. Tanner, S. E. Elmore, J. H. Thomas and B. B. Doggett. Trials will probably be held in the Fall. All gave

# Walter Heffners observe 66th wedding anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Heffner of Resthaven I, Hendersonville, observed their 66th wedding anniversary Saturday, June 22.

Mrs. Heffner is the former Edith Carver, daughter of the late John and Alice Fowler Carver. Heffner is the son of the late Jake and Mary Painter Heffner. They were the first couple to be married in Balfour Baptist Church, on June 22, 1919, by the Rev. Wade F. Sinclair, now deceased. Both are lifelong residents of Henderson County.

They are former residents of South Rugby Road, off N.C. Hwy. 191.

They are charter members and the oldest members of French Broad Baptist Church.

Heffner is a World War I veteran and is a retired carpenter.

The Heffners have three daughters, Mrs. Floyd Ward, Mildred Cagle and Mary Ann Russell of Hendersonville. A son, Walter W. Heffner, died in 1955. They also have 11 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

THIS ARTICLE taken from the June 28, 1985 edition of the *Times News*

## BLYTHER ENDS BALFOUR WORK

### Baptist Minister Unable to Accept Call 13th Time by Church

The Rev. C. E. Blythe, for the past 12 years pastor of the Balfour Baptist church delivered his final sermon to the congregation on Sunday evening.

Mr. Blythe was elected as pastor for the 13th time but was unable to accept the call.

At the beginning of his ministry the membership of the church numbered 175 and at the present time the church roll contains 50 persons. Four new Sunday school rooms have been added to the church and the entire building has been brick veneered.

Members of the congregation praised highly the work done by Mr. Blythe in his 12 years as their pastor and officials of the church expressed deep regret that he was unable to serve them for a longer period.

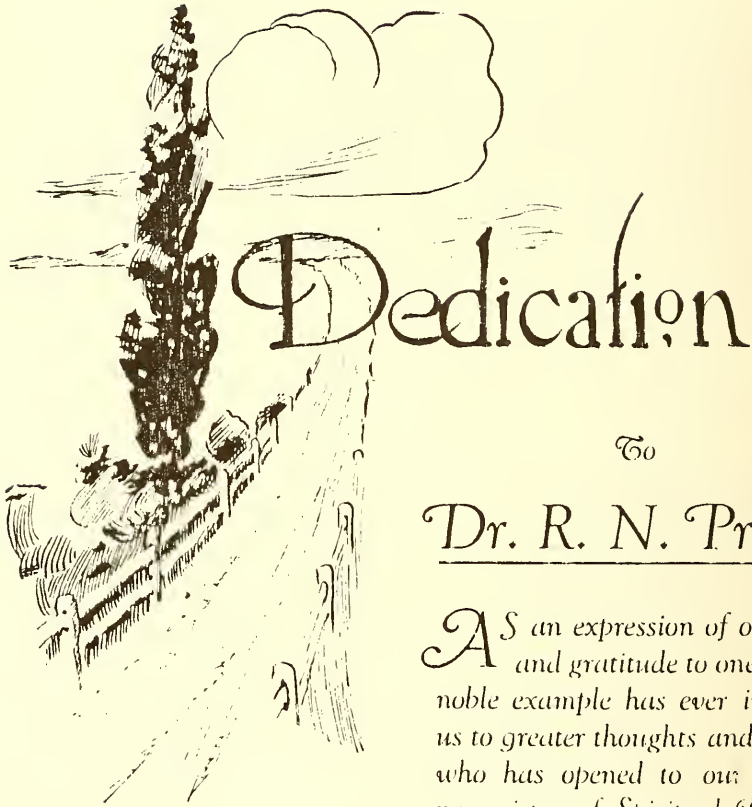
#### ON THE STATE OF RELIGION.

The committee on the state of religion report that the Holy Spirit of God seems to be abroad among the churches. That much good seems to be done in the way of bringing sinners to repentance. But we don't think that there is that kind of feeling existing between churches and christians that should. Our churches need a better understanding of Bible discipline, and they fail to a great extent, to look after the wants of their pastors, which we hope will be remedied. If our churches and brethren would subscribe for some good religious paper it would give us a correct knowledge on both points. May we all endeavor to work and pray more for Zion and each other. All of which is respectfully submitted by

J. W. MIDDLETON, *Chmn.*

Read and adopted.

AN EXCERPT from the 1st annual session of the Carolina Association — Oct. 19-20, 1877



To  
Dr. R. N. Pratt

AS an expression of our love  
and gratitude to one whose  
noble example has ever inspired  
us to greater thoughts and deeds,  
who has opened to our minds  
new vistas of Spiritual Beauty,  
and who has eternally endeared  
himself to the heart of every stu-  
dent, we lovingly and loyally  
dedicate this volume of

"The Sororian"

THE ANDERSON College year book, "The Sororian" was dedicated to Rev.  
R.N. Pratt in the year of his death, 1928.





AN ADULT Sunday School Class taken on the back steps of the church in 1931. Left to right, First Row: Jesse Owenby, Walter Merritt, Molly McKillop, Reba Vaughan Clayton, Texie Jenkins, Myrtle Corn Wright, Iona Moody Bentley, Sadie Bentley Brown, Lula Barnwell. Second Row: Beulah Vaughan Clark, May Barnwell Condrey, Lela McKillop, Phoebe Dill, Anna Bell Raines Jones, Beulah Matthews Erwin, Nancy Bell Stansell. Third Row: Janette Anderson Maxwell, Leotta Rhodes Stewart, Frances Maxwell, Anna Lou Odom Heaton, Carl Hammond, J.B. Stansell, William Dill, Travis Barnwell, Bob Hammond, Howard Clayton. Fourth Row: Annis Brown Laughter, Tina Bell Ashe, Cret Rhodes Fondren, Josie Ross Hammond. Fifth Row: Lewis Fisher, Ernest Coates, Lawrence Erwin, Rob Williams, Lem Brown, Clarence Bentley, Harvey Erwin, Floyd Mull, Fate Matthews.



MEN'S BIBLE Class in old church about 1960. Left to Right, Front Row: Jimmy Riddlehoover, Raleigh Maxwell (teacher), Ed Justus. Second Row: Albert Sproles, Charlie Ward, Ernest Erwin, Rev. W.C. Huntley (Pastor), Ben Raines.





A FULL HOUSE in the Nursery. Workers standing left to right are: Mrs. Hollis Hill, Jewell Brooks, Ruby Pruitt, Ruth Parham, Mrs. Kirby, Mrs. John Anderson, Virginia Erwin, Tilda Davis, Mrs. Geneva Searcy, Mrs. Eula Lyda (Nursery Coordinator). Picture taken in the old church in mid 50's.

## NOW and THEN



MOTHERS OVER 70 being honored on Mother's Day in late 70's. Front Row: Mrs. D.D. Searcy, Mrs. Vesta Laughter,





"AUNT CORA" Justus' Sunday School Class taken in May 1950. Left to Right (adults) First Row: Joyce Bentley, Pauline Rhodes, Phoebe Watkins, Louise Stansell, Ed Justus, Cora Justus, Carrie Costner, Artie Bell Hollingsworth, Margie Hunt, Helen Stansell, Helen McDowell, Mattie Rhodes. Second Row: , Arnold Erwin, Woodrow Bentley, Vaughn Rhodes, Haskel Heaton, Joe Watkins, Helen Seigler, Marvin Erwin, Raymond Matthews, Olla Owens, Claudine Ashe, Leota Stewart, Clyde Erwin, Addie Lusk, Retta Erwin, Mrs. Crone, John Hunt, Mrs. C.T. Hoy, Clarence Stansell, Gertrude Nonchester, Otis, McDowell, Frank Rhodes. Third Row: Harold Stansell, Viola Smith, Carolyn Turner, Delma Grooms, Marie Singleton, Clarence Grooms. Fourth Row: Harold Smith, J.B. Stansell, Nancy Stansell, Mrs. Solan Wilson. Top Row: Mike Hood, Ruby Hood, Paul Davis, Tilda Davis, Ruby Bell, Jennings Bell.

# NOW and THEN







INTERMEDIATE GIRL'S Sunday School Class meeting in basement of overcrowded conditions in the old church in 1954. Left to Right: First Row: Betty Fern Stansell, Edna Corn (Teacher), Kathleen Bentley, Dixie Costner, Dixie Taylor, Joyce Barnwell, Christine Henderson. Second Row: Ona Henderson, Hester Davis, Priscilla Singleton, June James, Margaret Evans, Texie Stansell, Marilyn Hutchinson, Peggy Wiggins. Third Row: Barbara Worsham, Brenda Turner, Shirley Williams, Margaret Dill, Betty Garren, Faye Henderson, Kay Heaton, June McMahan. Fourth Row: Alice Duncan, Carolyn Ward, Linda King, Norma Whitaker, Pat Matthews, Claudette Parker, Virginia Nonchester.

## NOW and THEN



Memorabilia of  
HARRISBURG, PA.





**INTERMEDIATE BOYS and Girls around 1946. Mrs. Maxwell was the teacher of the girls and her daughter, Mrs. Eula Lyda, teacher of the boys.**



"MOTHERS CLASS" picture taken in early 50's. Front Row, left to right: Mrs. John Freeman, Mrs. Beulah Erwin, Mrs. Agnes McCarson. Second Row: Mrs. Hensley, Dolly Whitaker, Annie Leah Stewart, Mrs. E.E. Matthews, Mrs. Tabitha Stewart. Mrs. Freeman and grand-daughter. Third Row: Mrs. Odom, Mrs. Fate Matthews, Mrs. Howard Warren, Mrs.





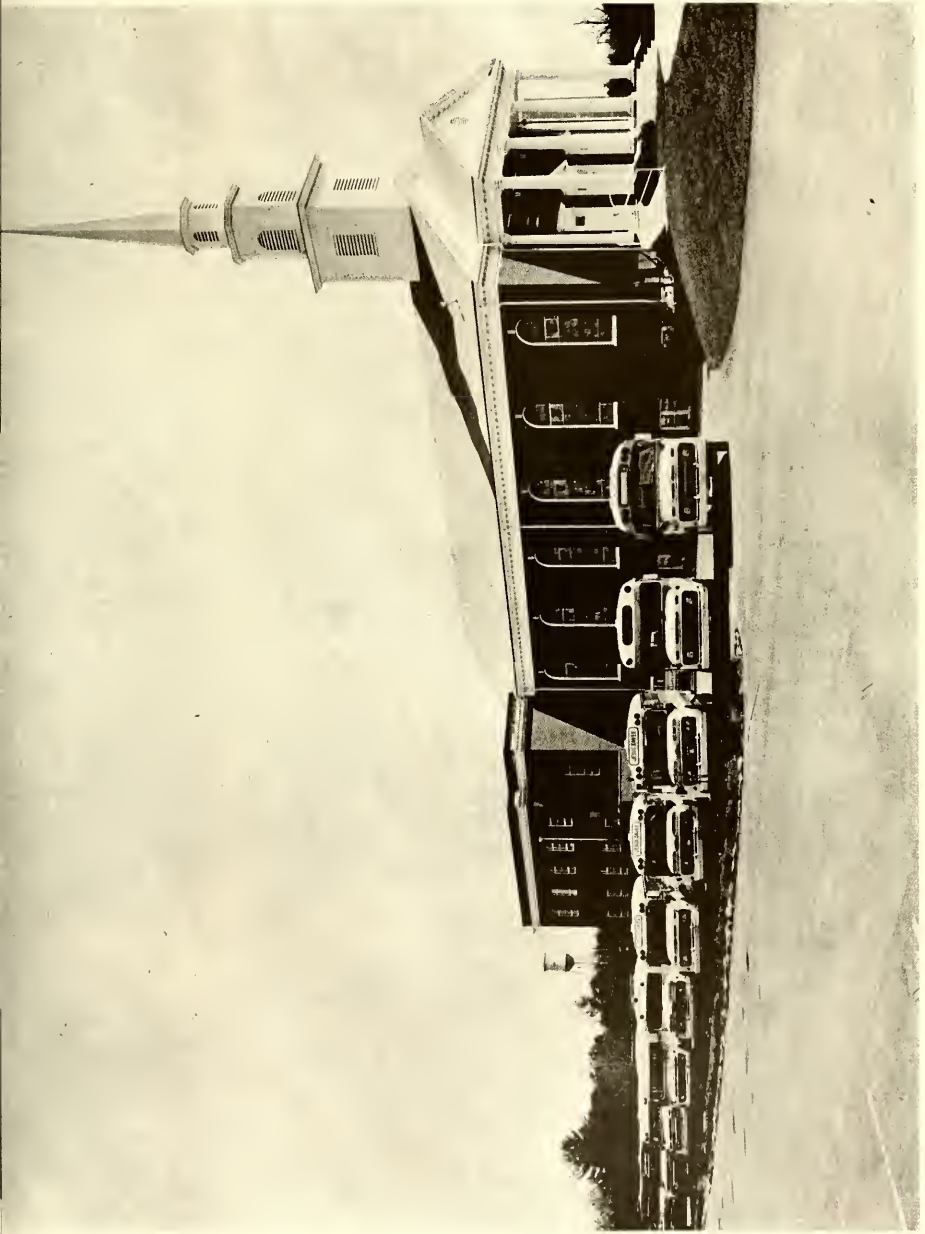
**WORSHIP SERVICE in the old church in the late 50's.**



# NOW and THEN

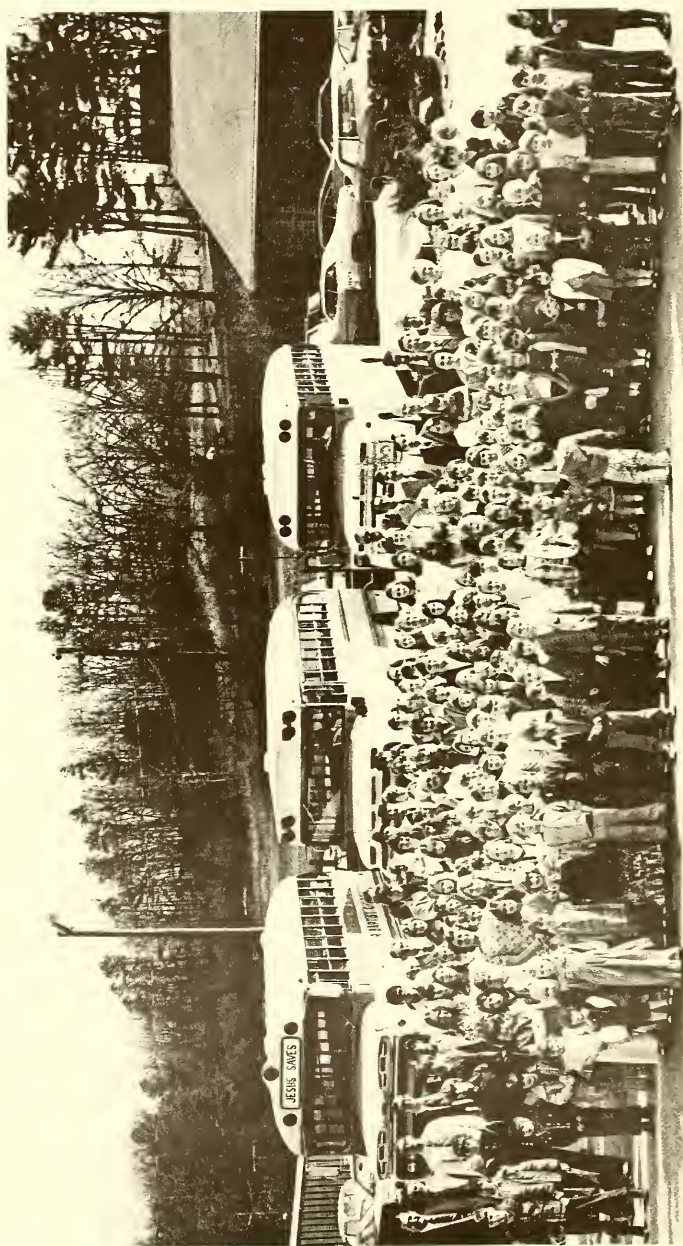


## NOW and THEN



A VIEW of the fleet buses owned and operated by the church in late 60's and early 70's.

## NOW and THEN



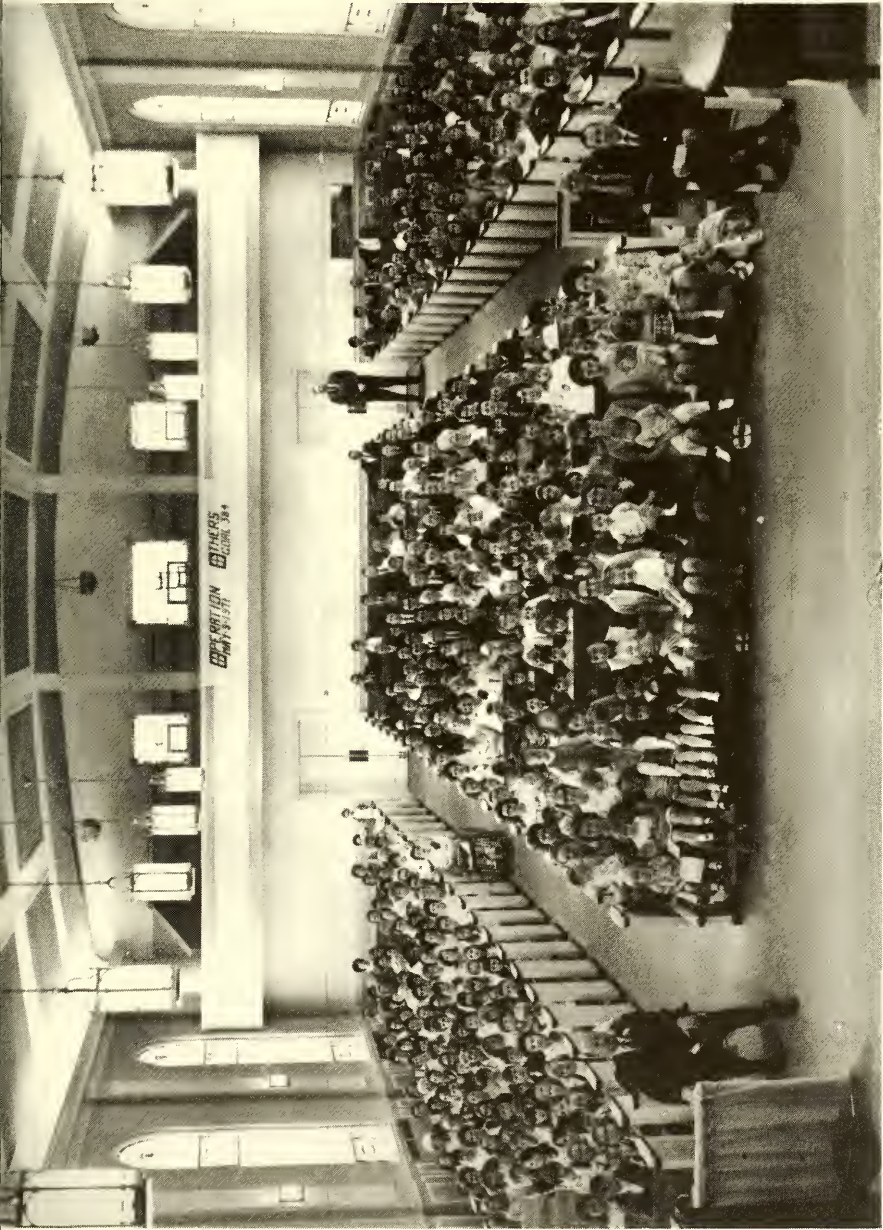


**CHURCH STAFF in the late 60's. Left to Right: Clem Cabe, Edna Corn, Dwight Costner, Doug Whitfield, Rev. Condred Pirkle (Pastor), Doug Davis.**



INTERMEDIATE BOYS Sunday School Class about 1946. Left to Right, First Row: Bill Crone, Earl Shealy, Jim Capps, Kenneth Kirby, J.B. Sproles. Second Row: J.D. Shepherd, Mrs. Eula Lyda (Teacher), Arnold Capps, Jim Parham, Fran-





A HIGH attendance day on May 7, 1971. Rev. Ed Valowe in left aisle and Rev. Curtis McCarley and Harvey Erwin in right aisle.



## NOW and THEN





**YOUNG PEOPLE'S Class taken about 1954. First Row: Mrs. D.D. Searcy (asst. teacher), Mattie Rhodes (teacher), Faith Searcy. Second Row: Gene Sanders, Shirley Seigler, Hazel Brown, Joyce Barnwell, Veda Erwin, Ina Matthews. Third Row: Raymond Corn, Alton Martin, Gene Moody, Sonny Hedrick, Donald Stansell, Oliver Erwin.**



## NOW and THEN







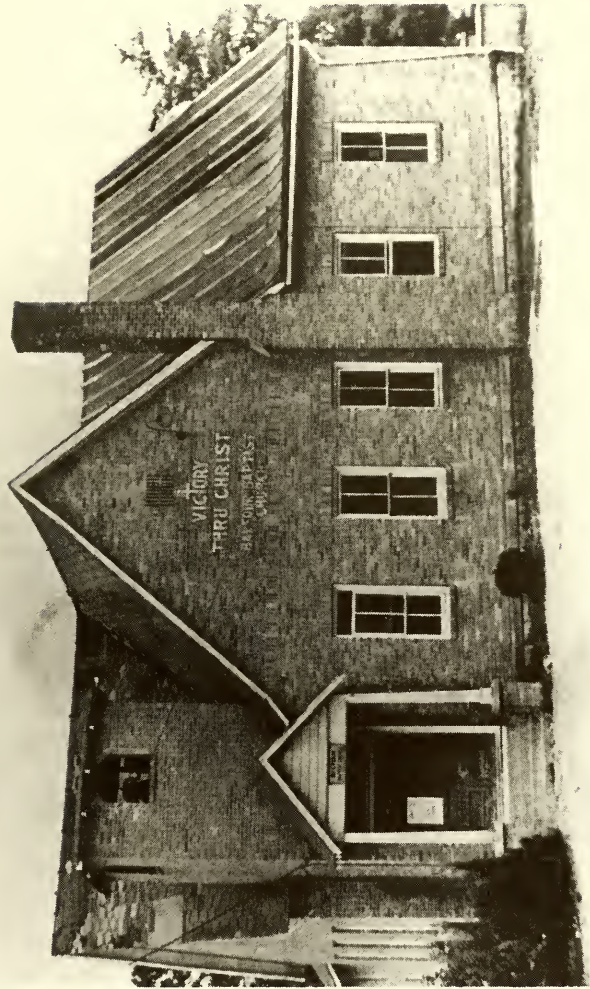
ADULT WOMEN'S Class in early 50's. Front Row: Mrs. Annie Mae Robertson (teacher). Second Row: Mrs. Carrie Costner, Mrs. Howard Worsham, Mrs. Floyd McMahan, Mrs. Solan Wilson, Katherine Jones. Back Row: Thelma Wiggins, Mrs. Newt Blocker, Mrs. Fannie Henderson.

## NOW and THEN



Married together in 1934

# NOW and THEN



THIS BUILDING had served its purpose.





MR. AND MRS. Alonzo Pruitt, Sr.



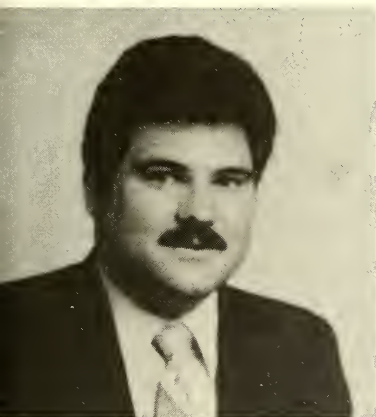
ALBERT SPROLES, Donald Ward, James Martin and Arnold Erwin on Father's Day, 1979.

# THE CHURCH TODAY

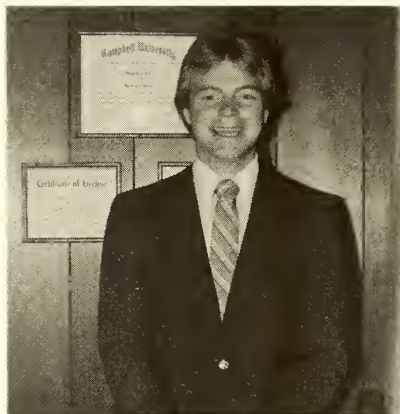




**PASTOR AND Family, left to right: Amy Thomas, Bettie Thomas, Laura Thomas; standing, Rev. Dewey Thomas.**



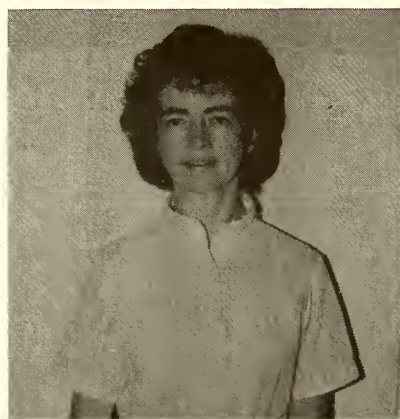
**ASSOCIATE PASTOR, Rev. Rick Clark.**



**YOUTH & EDUCATION Director, Gray Little.**



**CHURCH SECRETARY, "Miss Edna" Arn.**



**PART-TIME Secretary, Barbara Capps.**

**PASTOR & DEACONS:** Front Row: Rev. Dewey Thomas. Back Row: Minuard Bailey, Harold Pruitt, Xander Capps, Donnie Stepp, Bob Merrill, Brad Searcy.



**ASST. TREASURER,** Donnie Stepp;  
**Treasurer,** Bobby Merrill.



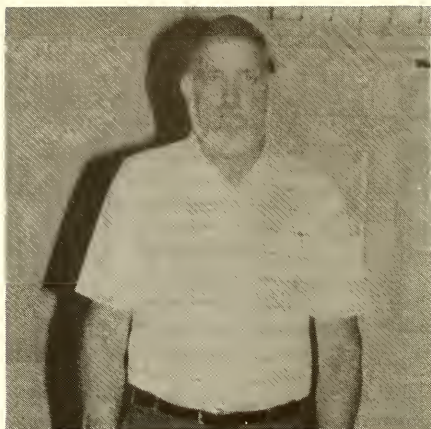
**SUNDAY SCHOOL Assistant Director & Secretary,** Donnie Stepp; **Sunday School Director,** Xander Capps.



**CHURCH CLERK,** Ruby Pruitt.



**MEDIA CENTER**, Sharion Bolden, staff;  
with Searcy, Media Director.



**CHAIRMAN OF Ushers**, Tom Jackson.



**MUSIC**: Barbara Capps, Pianist (seated),  
Laura Ward, Organist, Brad Searcy,  
Minister of Music.

**IR**: Front Row: Faith Searcy,  
e Bailey, Lynn Searcy, Mary  
Searcy, Ora Henderson, Laura  
l (organist), Barbara Capps  
ist); Second Row: Valerie  
s, Paula Little, Joan Benson,  
red Stepp, Ruby Pruitt, Barbara  
Third Row: Xander Capps,  
Searcy, Chad Merrill, Daniel  
y, Arnold Erwin, Brad Searcy  
ctor); Fourth Row: Emerson  
y, Bob Pittman, Cliff Searcy.







**CHILDREN'S CHOIR:** First Row: Misty Overcash, Kasey Case, Amy Thomas, Chris Souther, Jamie Overcash; Second Row: Rachael Cabe, Teresa Newman, Kristy Mason, Barbara Capps (director), Jeremy Bolden, Klay Anderson.



**W.M.U.:** First Row: Barbara Pace, Marilyn Pittman, Ruby Pruitt; Back Row: Laura Ward, Myrtle Worsham, Lisa McMahan, Moenia Sproles, Emily Darnell, Edna Corn (director).

### Did You Know...

That the Balfour Baptist and the Balfour Methodist congregations alternated between the two joint prayer services and revivals, especially in the early 40's?



**B.Y.W.:** First Row: Debi Ward, Paula Little, Lisa Finley, Lisa Searcy; Back Row: Melis Bryson, Connie Stewart, Rita Laughter, Rene' Biddix, Lynn Searcy (leader), Lisa Stepp.



**ACTEENS:** First Row: Jennifer Wood, Tracy Worsham, Paula Little (adult leader), Julie Partin, Missy Bailey; Back Row: Tamela Braswell, Angel Watkins, Mary Beth Searcy, Kelly Watkins, Tammy Green, Valerie Capps, Jessica Podelski.

**As:** First Row: Amy Thomas, Kristy Mason, Rachael Cabe, Kristy Overcash, Shannon Pauther; Second Row: Renee' Addix (helper), Emily Darnell (adult leader), Miriam Capps, Teresa Newman, Juanita Pauther (helper).



**MISSION FRIENDS:** First Row: Laura Ann Thomas, Krista McKinney, Joseph Bailey, Trent Phillips, Keith Merrill; Second Row: Judy Brittain (helper), Kacey Case, Rebecca Cabe, Anthony McKinney, Melissa Barnwell (helper), Ruby Pruitt (adult leader).





**RAs (Older Group):** First Row: Kim Myers, Dale Pace, Kevin King, Timmy Harwood; Second Row: Robbie Kuykendall, Sammy Case, Chad Merrill, Doug Searcy, Steve Rice, Matthew Wood; Third Row: Richard Pruitt (adult leader), Michael Worsham, Phil Darnell, Andy Overcash (helper), Kenny Harwood.



**RAs (Younger Group):** First Row: Chris Souther, Jamie Overcash, Daniel Brittain; Second Row: Jeremy Bolden, Klay Anderson, James Newman, Kevin Jackson, Xander Capps (adult leader).



**PUPPET TEAM:** First Row: Kelly Watkins, Joan Benson, Daniel Bailey, Tamela Braswell, Valerie Capps; Second Row: Doug Searcy, Chad Merrill, Juanita Bailey, Laura Bailey, Angel Watkins.





**JOY CLASS:** First Row: Melinda Davis, Moenia Sproles, Irene Hill, Lila McMahan, Ersie Collins; Second Row: Callie Flynn, Ora Henderson, Stella Foster, Katherine Jones, Belle Matthews, Val Gasperson (teacher), Jessie Miller, Grace Stepp, Sarah Pruitt, Tilda Davis.



**SENIOR ADULTS:** Front Row: Phyllis Bailey, William Bailey, Jack Taylor, Minuward Bailey (teacher), Charles Garren; Back Row: Donald Ward, Katherine Ward, Vesta Laughter, J.B. Stansell.

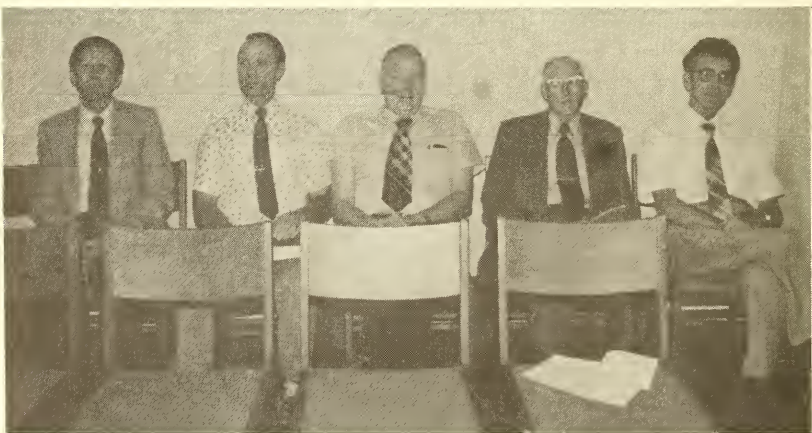


**MEDIAN ADULT I:** Seated: Doris Nichols, Cecil Benson, Betty Benson, Pam Walker, Judy Brittain, Geneva Rogers, Juanita Souther, Jim Rogers, Pat Harwood, Bill Bude, Judy Sanowskis, Doris Bude, Tippy Guffey. Standing: Sam Huntley, Juanita Newman, Earl Newman, Carol Mullinax, Dean Mullinax, Jerry Souther, Dan Green, Harry Schenimann, Marilyn Schenimann, Johnny Mason, Shelia Mason, Emerson Searcy (teacher), Jean Mercer.



**MEDIAN ADULT II:** Front Row, Left to Right, Seated: Jane Ray, Phillis Moore, Stella Jackson, Sharion Bolden, Diane Braswell and Lynne Cabe; Standing: Harold Pruitt (teacher), Marilyn Pitman, Barbara Capps, Bob Pitman, James Pace, Tom Jackson, Michael Bolden, Kay Merrill, Barbara Pace.

**PASTOR'S CLASS:** Front Row: Carroll Painter, Marie Painter, Rev. Dewey Thomas (teacher), James Peace, Marie Peace; Second Row: Buck Wood, Sandy Wood, Jerry Hall, Joyce Hall, Charlie Bonnett; Third Row: Carolyn Warren, Louise Stansell, Harold Stansell, John Hughes, Janice Hughes; Fourth row: Hugh Perry, Ruth Perry, Betty Haney, Harry Whidden, Helen Whidden; Fifth Row: Edna Corn, Harvey Raines, Neil Wallace, Rida Wallace.



**ADULT BIBLE CLASS:** Raymond Carpenter, Robert Nichols, Bill Ward (teacher), Hubert collins, Krystler Jamerson.





**YOUNG ADULTS:** First Row: Brad Searcy, Debi Ward, Lisa Finley, Laura Phillips, Melissa Bryson, Lisa Searcy, Connie Stewart; Back Row: Rene' Biddix, Rita Warren, Arthur Ward, Scott Stewart, Cliff Searcy (teacher), Lynn Searcy.

**YOUTH I,** left to right, First Row: Eric Schenimann, Joshua Moore, James Blackwell, James Newman, Kevin Jackson; Back Row: Richard Anderson (teacher), Harry Newman (teacher), Erich Cabe, Jason King, Jeff Corriher, Shannon Souther, Heather Huntley, Miriam Capps, Mildred Stepp (teacher), Barbara Carpenter (Dept. Director).



**YOUTH II:** Front Row: Kevin King, Doug Searcy, Michael Worsham, Eddie Mercer, Darrin Parker, Steve Rice, Bryon Nichols, Sammy Case, Eric Partin, Johnny Blackwell; Second Row: Gray Little (Youth Director), Paula Little (Youth Leader), Julie Partin, Joy Partin, Renee' Rogers, Tammy Green, Kelly Watkins, Jessica Podelski, Missy Bailey, Jackie Podelski, Mandie Allison, Renee' Schenimann, Tamela Braswell, Sidney Pruitt, Kenny Harwood; Third Row: Phil Carpenter, Dale Pace, Richie Allison, Jason Moore, Daniel Bailey, Chad Merrill, Alan Rogers, Timmy Harwood, Phil Darnell, Kim Myers.





**BIBLE LEARNERS** Front Row: Jeremy Stepp, Chris Souther, Heather Huntley, Nickole Henderson, Rachael Cabe, Stacey Rogers, Kelley Schenimann; Second Row: Joey Blackwell, Amy Thomas, Josh Guffey, Teresa Newman, Kristy Mason, Klay Anderson, Jeremy Bolden, Trent Waggoner, Jeremiah Guffey, and teachers Juanita Newman, Diane Stepp, Laura Ward.



**PRESCHOOL B & C:** First Row: Sean Green, Jason Mercer, Nathan Ward, Eddie Wingate, Trinity Philips, Christa McKinney, Brynne Scott, Laura Ann Thomas; Second Row: Ruby Pruitt (Director), Craig Stepp, Keith Merrill, Joseph Bailey, Leon Henderson, Anthony McKinney, Joshua Laughter, Kacey Case; Third Row: Stephanie Hardin, Carla Ledbetter, Rebecca Cabe, Nichole Laughter (visitor), Jonathan Stepp, Willie Henderson, Sherry Corn, Jessica Guffey, Teela Waggoner (visitor), Arlene Watkins (teacher - 3 year olds), June Pruitt (teacher/director Preschool Childrens' Worship).



**NURSERY CHILDREN** left to right: Jessica Moore, Jacob Moore, Heather Walker, Heather Ward, Joseph Laughter, Lauren Searcy, Brian Mason, Chay Scott. Teachers seated: Kathleen Martin, Jessie Newman; Back Row: Bettie Thomas (director), Emily Darnell, Melissa Bryson, Connie Stewart, Michael Stewart, Mary Frances Jamerson.



**MATTHEW WOOD**, Jamie Overcash, Jennifer Wood, Misty Overcash, Mary Beth Searcy, Meredith Searcy, Angel Watkins.



**FRONT ROW:** David Clark, Adam Clark; **Second Row:** Pauline Crone, Rev. Rick Clark, Jackie Clark.

# CHURCH ROLL

|                   |                       |                  |
|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Richard Anderson  | Rusty Darnell         | Bobby Merrill    |
| Loretta Anderson  | Philip Darnell        | Kay Merrill      |
| Joyce Bailey      | Melinda Davis         | Chad Merrill     |
| Minuard Bailey    | Matilda Davis         | Jessie Miller    |
| Solene Bailey     | Bobby Deaver          | Midge Moody      |
| Daniel Bailey     | Angie Deaver          | Dorothy Moody    |
| Laura Bailey      | James (Buddy) Duckett | Phyllis Moore    |
| Juanita Bailey    | Debbie Duckett        | Jason Moore      |
| William Bailey    | Arnold Erwin          | Joshua Moore     |
| Phyllis Bailey    | Mary Erwin            | Dean Mullinax    |
| Martha Barnwell   | Callie Flynn          | Carol Mullinax   |
| Cecil Benson      | Stella Foster         | Harry Newman     |
| Betty Benson      | Charles Garren        | Jessie Newman    |
| Joan Benson       | Valderine Gasperson   | Earl Newman      |
| Randy Biddix      | Dan Green             | Juanita Newman   |
| Rene' Biddix      | Sherry Green          | James Newman     |
| Johnny Blackwell  | Tammy Green           | Teresa Newman    |
| Michael Bolden    | Joyce Hall            | Bryon Nichols    |
| Sharion Bolden    | Walter Alonzo Haney   | Doris Nichols    |
| Jeremy Bolden     | Betty Haney           | Robert Nichols   |
| Charles Bonnett   | Patricia Harwood      | Andy Overcash    |
| Helen Bonnett     | Tim Harwood           | Sonji Overcash   |
| Barry Bonnett     | Mrs. G.B. Heaton      | James Pace       |
| Joe Braswell      | Ora Henderson         | Barbara Pace     |
| Diane Braswell    | Irene Hill            | Dale Pace        |
| Texie Bradley     | Sammy Huntley         | Julie Partin     |
| Judy Brittain     | Marie Huntley         | Joy Partin       |
| Joy Brooks        | Hope Huntley          | Marie Peace      |
| Steven Brooks     | Thomas Jackson        | Hugh Perry       |
| Jewel Brooks      | Stella Jackson        | Ruth Perry       |
| Melissa Bryson    | Kevin Jackson         | Michael Perry    |
| Bill Bude         | Krystler Jamerson     | Laura Phillips   |
| Doris Bude        | Mary Frances Jamerson | Marilyn Pittman  |
| Oberia Burnett    | Katherine Jones       | Bob Pittman      |
| Lynne Cabe        | Cora Justus           | Terry Plott      |
| Erich Cabe        | Robby Kuykendall      | Shelia Plott     |
| Ilse Cabe         | Pat Lance             | Jackie Podelski  |
| Alexander Capps   | John Laughter         | Jessica Podelski |
| Barbara Capps     | Pauline Laughter      | Gerald Pruitt    |
| Miriam Capps      | Vesta Laughter        | Cheryl Pruitt    |
| Valerie Capps     | Sidney Gray Little    | Harold Pruitt    |
| Barbara Carpenter | Paula M. Little       | Ruby Pruitt      |
| Philip Carpenter  | John Lynn             | Sidney Pruitt    |
| Steven Carpenter  | Ethel Lynn            | Richard Pruitt   |
| Grady Case        | James Martin          | Darlene Pruitt   |
| Mary Lee Case     | Kathleen Martin       | Norman Pruitt    |
| Richard Clark     | John Mason            | June Pruitt      |
| Jackie Clark      | Shelia Mason          | Sarah Pruitt     |
| David Clark       | Kristy Mason          | Harvey Raines    |
| Hubert Collins    | Voyle Massey          | Irene Raines     |
| Ersie Collins     | Belle Matthews        | Icey Revis       |
| Dewey Corn        | Herbert McGaha        | Holt Rhodes      |
| Edna Corn         | Cathleen McKinney     | Jennie Rhodes    |
| Pauline Crone     | Lila McMahan          | Tammy Rhodes     |
| Emily Darnell     | Jean Mercer           |                  |



James Rogers  
 Geneva Rogers  
 Renee' Rogers  
 Harry Schenimann  
 Marilyn Schenimann  
 Renee' Schenimann  
 Eric Schenimann  
 Geneva Searcy  
 Emerson Searcy  
 Faith Searcy  
 Mary Beth Searcy  
 Doug Searcy  
 Clifton Searcy  
 Lisa Searcy  
 Brad Searcy  
 Lynn Searcy  
 Stanley Shealy  
 Rhonda Shealy  
 George Shook  
 Laura Shook  
 Connie Skillen  
 Jerry Lee Souther  
 Juanita Souther  
 Shannon Souther  
 Moenia Sproles  
 Clarence Stansell  
 Helen Stansell

Harold Stansell  
 Louise Stansell  
 J.B. Stansell  
 Nancy Stansell  
 R.G. Stepp  
 Mildred Stepp  
 Vickie Stepp  
 Donald Gene Stepp  
 Diane Stepp  
 Wayne Stepp  
 Donna Stepp  
 Bruce Stepp  
 Grace Stepp  
 Brooks Stepp  
 Lisa Stepp  
 Scott Stewart  
 Connie Stewart  
 Jack Taylor  
 Rev. Dewey Thomas  
 Bettie Thomas  
 Amy Thomas  
 Neal Wallace  
 Rida Wallace  
 Bill Ward  
 Laura Ward  
 Donald Ward  
 Katherine Ward

Arthur Ward  
 Debbie Ward  
 Jerry Warren  
 Rita Warren  
 Larry Warren  
 Carolyn Warren  
 Russell Warren  
 Arlene Watkins  
 Angela Watkins  
 Kelly Watkins  
 Nancy Williams  
 Constance Wingate  
 Harold Wood  
 Sandy Wood  
 Matthew Wood  
 Jennifer Wood  
 Myrtle Worsham  
 Tracy Worsham  
 Michael Worsham  
 Non Resident:  
 Norma Jean Burnett  
 Sandy Briggs  
 Sharon Dunlap  
 Nancy Harwood  
 Steve Mason  
 Barbara O'Brien  
 Terry O'Connor

### Did You Know...

In the early days of the church, the congregation met one weekend a month unless special meetings were called?

### Did You Know...

The church prayed for 9 weeks before revival in March 1954 and continued praying for 21 weeks after. 40 to 50 were professions.

### Did You Know...

The practice of giving Bibles to high school graduates from our church started June 7, 1959?

### Did You Know...

January 24, 1965 - A sick member wanted to be in church so bad that her family hired an ambulance to bring her?



It's amazing how God works in each one of our lives. God has blessed richly and guided us through times when we were discouraged. He opened doors that only he could open and we pray that through our efforts you can see how Christ has worked through the lives of Christians here at Balfour Baptist Church. May God have all the Glory for all he has done and all that he's going to do.

*Harry Newman*

*Sharon Bolden*

*Harold Pruitt*

*Melissa Bryson*

*Emerson Deary*















